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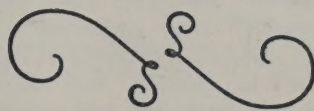


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History of

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Franconia Township

by James Y. Heckler



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THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANCONIA
ALLENTOWN, PA.
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Biographical Sketch

James Y. Heckler

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If you were standing on the turnpike along the LEDERACHVILLE and HARLEYSVILLE TURNPIKE during the 1880's and 90's you might have met James Y. Heckler at the toll-gate at Harleysville, which was located at the corner of present day Route 113 and Center Street, just west of the new home of the Harleysville Mutual Insurance Company.

Copyright 1960

Here you would have found him writing one of his local histories, or taking questions from visitors, about the early local history and lore which was his main interest during his latter years.

Carroll D. Hendricks

He was born near Folia's Station in Montgomery County on October 21, 1842, son of Joseph D. and Elizabeth Yeaman Heckler. He attended a local school near his home, becoming very interested in higher education. His father sent him to nearby "Tree-land Seminary," better known today as "Ursinus College" in Collegeville.

For more than twenty years he taught school around Skippack and Harleysville. He married twice; his first wife was Mary Lukens whom he married in 1854; she died in 1864 leaving him five children. A few years later he married Lydia Harley who preceded him in death in 1885 leaving him two more children.

Much of James Y. Heckler's life history is unknown, but we know as before mentioned, he spent his last years as toll-gate keeper, where he wrote three local histories, "Lower Salford Township," published in 1882 at Harleysville, and "Skippack Township," published in 1885 in the MONTGOMERY TRANSCRIPT a newspaper printed at Skippack, and then the "History of Franciscus Township," which was nearly completed, but he died suddenly at his son Charles' home in Philadelphia before completion.

He was a member of the "Church of the Brethren," at times called "Dunkard" Church which was located at Vernfield. Besides being an Author he was a Poet. Several poems were published in the various local newspapers, his best known was a song of the Brethren called "The Earthquake."

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For many years he was a contributor to several local papers, THE NEUTRALIST and MONTGOMERY TRANSCRIPT printed at Skippack, the NORTH WALES RECORD, LANSDALE REPORTER and the HARLEYSVILLE NEWS, and at various times he wrote articles for the various publications of the Church of the Brethren.

On March 22, 1901, he died of pneumonia during a visit with his son Charles, and was buried at the Towamincin Masonite burying grounds near Kulpsville.

R. C. K.
1960

Biographical Sketch of James Y. Heckler

If you were traveling to or from Harleysville along the LEDERACHVILLE and HARLEYSVILLE TURNPIKE during the 1880's and 90's you no doubt would have met James Y. Heckler at the toll-gate at Harleysville which was located at the corner of present day Route 113 and Saddle Shop Road, the front lawn of the new home of the Harleysville Mutual Insurance Company.

Here you would have found him oft time penning one of his local histories, or asking questions of the various travelers, about the early local history and lore which was his main interest during his latter years.

He was born near Rahn's Station in Montgomery County on October 21, 1829, son of Joseph D. and Elizabeth Yocum Heckler. He attended a local school near his home, becoming very interested in higher education. His father sent him to nearby "Freeland Seminary," better known today as "Ursinus College" in Collegeville.

For more than twenty years he taught school around Skippack and Harleysville, he married twice, his first wife was Mary Lukens whom he married in 1854; she died in 1864 leaving him five children. A few years later he married Lydia Harley who preceded him in death in 1888, leaving him two more children.

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He was a member of the "Church of the Brethren," oft times called "Dunkard" Church which was located at Vernfield. Besides being an Author he was a Poet, some of his poems were published in the various local newspapers, his best known was a song of the Brethren called "The Ecclesianthem."

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On March 22, 1901, he died of pneumonia during a visit with his son Charles, and was buried at the Towamincin Mennonite burying grounds near Kulpsville.

R. C. K.
1960

COMPILED AND ARRANGED BY

Roy C. Kulp

AND PUBLISHED BY

Carroll D. Hendricks

1960

Preface

Our desire is that this book draws some of its readers into research for themselves along the line of their own families, and the early history surrounding their ancestors.

Much that is of historical interest has been lost forever, but much can still be found and recovered if keen attention is given without delay.

The research and writings of James Y. Heckler, John Souder, Abraham H. Cassel, and Edward Matthews have preserved much of the local history. If it had not been for them little would be known today, but they too saw and realized the importance of preserving the history of the past.

No doubt if William S. Delp still lived he would show the same interest. Because we are indebted to him for preserving this history which was first published in the Nov. 27, 1901, issue of the **"Harleysville News."**

In 1950 Carroll D. Hendricks was intrusted with a book knowing that he had a deep interest in local history and that he would preserve this book to the best of his ability.

It was one winter day in 1958 he showed me this book. I was surprised to see this history which I knew was written but never had located it up until this time. After some discussion it was decided that this should be published. So after much careful planning it was ready for publication.

Mr. Richard C. Moyer of Harleysville who helped set the type and printed this history in the **"Harleysville News"** has been actively engaged in the printing trade in Harleysville for the past seventy years. He was a great help to us and made it possible for this to be a successful publication and we are deeply indebted to him.

Roy C. Kulp
Chalfont, Pa.

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This Little Volume
is
Respectfully Dedicated To My
Dear Uncle, The Late
William S. Delp

Born Aug. 17, 1867, near Salfordville, Pa., son of William G. Delp, and Sara Ann Shutt Delp. He attended school at Salfordville and later at Sumneytown and Norristown, West Chester State Teachers College and University of Penna.

He taught school at Goshenhoppen and Salfordville. Became principal of Hatboro Schools, 1890-1892. From 1892-1902 he taught Mathematics at West Chester State Teachers College. In 1903 he was principal at the Friends School in Morristown, New Jersey, and from 1903-1907 he was engaged in business with a brother in Philadelphia. In 1909 he taught at the Carlisle Indian School. From 1910-1936 he was Supervising Principal of the West Reading Schools retiring in 1936 and living on a farm near Wernersville where he died on May 25, 1953. He wisely clipped from the "Harleysville News" this history and pasted it in a book which is now in my possession.

Carroll D. Hendricks
Harleysville, Pa.



William S. Delp, 1867-1953



INTRODUCTION

Inasmuch as numerous inquiries have been made in regard to the early history of Franconia township and a desire is growing to have a more extended knowledge of the early settlers of the district, an attempt has been made to bring out a more perfect history. It is known that people prominent in the churches and in business affairs have lived in the township, and the inquisitive mind wants to know more about them and where they lived. Histories of the churches have been written and published which we will take for granted as correct as far as they go, and may perhaps be able to add a few items to what has already been published in that direction. But in regard to the early settlers and their residences we propose to give considerable information. We shall rely only on facts. Where we have no facts traditions may pass for what they are worth.

In 1886 an effort was made by John D. Souder to publish a history of Franconia Township*. It was an effort put forth in the right direction and it is worthy of mention to notice that it was well done for a young man of no experience in writing, and I may refer to it in evidence sometimes in this work. With these preliminaries we shall push our boat out into deeper water.

Reference is sometimes made by writers to Holmes' Map of Pennsylvania, dated 1681. This was before William Penn had seen anything of his forest lands. On said map a district is marked to represent Franconia and is called "The Dutch Township." Now I shall lay violent hands on that map and tell my readers that either the date of the map or the outlines of it is a fraud, because there were no settlers in all this district for nearly 40 years from this date, and who knew at the time that the settlers would be Dutch? Even 30 years after this date, when there was still no white man here, the lands about Elroy were represented as "lying and being near the headwaters of the Nishaminy River." This alone shows how little was known about the district. There is enough on that map to show that it may have been made 30 or 40 years after that date. Early adventurers going up the Neshaminy from Bristol as far as Chalfont would naturally suppose the headwaters of that stream might be in the direction of Elroy.

*Published in Harleysville, 1886; a fine copy in the Roy C. Kulp collection.

INTRODUCTION

Increasingly as numerous inquiries have been made in regard to the early history of Princeton Township and a desire is growing to have a more extended knowledge of the early settlers of the district, an attempt has been made to bring out a more general history. It is known that people prominent in the churches and in business circles have lived in the township, and the executive mind wants to know more about them and where they lived. Histories of the churches have been written and published which we will take for granted as correct as far as they go, and may perhaps be able to add a few items to what has already been published in that direction. But in regard to the early settlers and their residences we have to give considerable information. We shall rely only on facts. Where we have no facts historians may pass for what they are worth.

In 1886 an effort was made by John D. Bowler to publish a history of Princeton Township. It was an effort put forth in the right direction and its worthy manner is borne out by the fact that it was well done for a young man of no experience in writing, and I may refer to it in evidence sometimes in this work. With these preliminaries we shall push our boat out into deeper water.

Reference is sometimes made by writers to Holmes' Map of Pennsylvania, dated 1821. This was before William Penn had seen any of his forest lands. On said map a district is marked to represent Princeton and is called "The Dutch Township." Now I shall lay violent hands on that map and tell my readers that either the date or the name of it is a fraud because there were no Dutch lands in that district for nearly 40 years from this date and who would have thought that the settlers would be Dutch? Even 30 years later the Dutch were still no white man here, the lands were still "in the hands of the Indians" and being near the head of the Delaware River, it was "in the hands of the Indians" and alone shows how little was that map to show that the Dutch were not there. Early settlers as far as Chatham would be in the stream might be in the

History of FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP

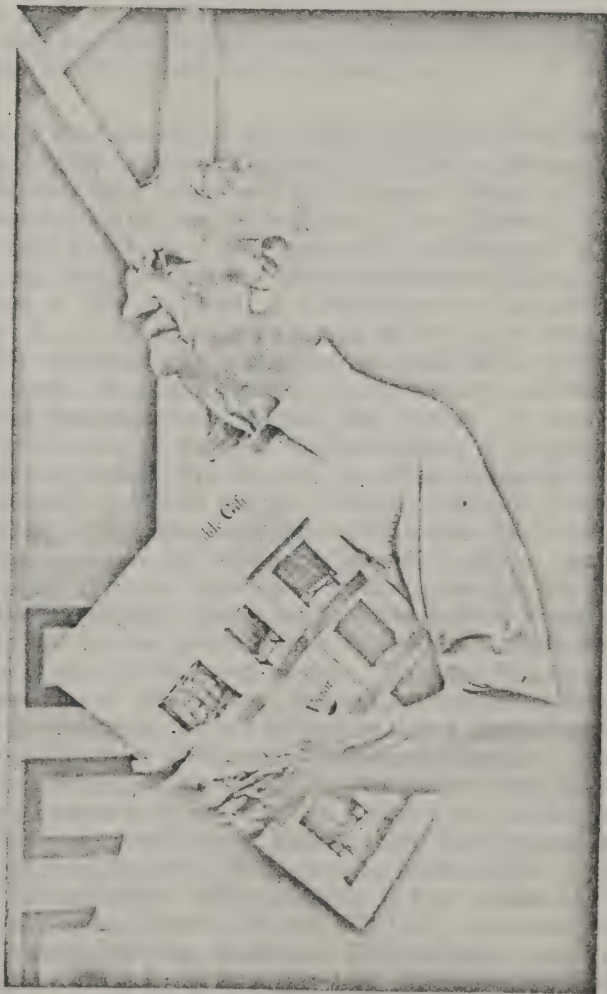
By James Y. Heckler

Land Grants

In surveying the land of Franconia township a line was drawn across the district, commencing on the County Line in the public road below Telford and extending southwest through Reliance over to the road near the residence of Edwin Nice. Along Halteman's creamery for some distance the road is not on this line. On the southeastern side of this line and parallel to it was a tract of 600 acres surveyed and conveyed to James Dickinson, of the Parish of Bingham, in the County of Cumberland, Great Britain, in the year 1714. These 600 acres were granted and confirmed to the said James Dickinson by a patent dated the 15th day of the 8th month of 1714, and is recorded in patent Book A, Volume 5, page 82. This tract extended from the aforesaid line in the road at Edwin Nice's down to the Skippack, and along the aforesaid line northeast to the corner on the northeast side of Benjamin Krupp's land. The patent for this tract of 600 acres to James Dickinson, dated the 15th day of the 8th month 1714, is still preserved in good condition by the Rev. Michael Moyer, and the bearings are given: Beginning at a white oak tree, a corner of Thomas Wilson's land, then by land of Joseph Jones northwest 200 perches to a corner, at a post, then northwest 480 perches to a post, then southwest 200 perches to a corner at a black oak tree, then by Thomas Wilson's land southwest 480 perches to the place of beginning, containing 600 acres.

On the southeast side of the said tract of land was another tract containing 810 acres granted to Thomas Wilson, of Mount Wilson, in King's county, in the Kingdom of Ireland, Great Britain. This tract was also covered by a patent dated the 26th of the 8th month 1714. It covered all the south corner of the township about Elroy, and was mostly in timber until about the year 1790. This tract was long known as the "Seven Hundred," and many incidents were related in times past of people losing themselves in this great forest. This tract was held by the Wilson family about 76 years. The patent covering this tract is recorded in Patent Book A, Volume 5, Page 79. The brief of title runs thus: Patent granted to Thomas Wilson October 26, 1714.

Thomas Wilson by his will and testament dated 30th day of 11th month, i.e. January 30, 1724, devised the said 810 acres of land to his son, Thomas Wilson. The will is registered in Philadelphia in Book U, page 190. Thomas Wilson, Jr., died intestate and unmarried, and his estate descended to his brother, Benjamin Wilson. The transfer of titles from Thomas Wilson to Benjamin Wilson is dated October 10, 1751. To confirm this deed there was an endorsement, not explained, written on the large deed from Thomas Wilson to the said Benjamin Wilson, dated December 24, 1756. The will of Benjamin Wilson is dated June 3, 1765, in which he bequeathed his whole estate



Mr. Richard C. Moyer

Born in 1872 — lives in Harleysville, Pa. — a local printer for 70 years

Thomas Wilson by his will and testament dated 30th day of 11th month, i.e. January 30, 1784, devised the said 810 acres of land to his son, Thomas Wilson. The will is registered in Philadelphia in Book U, page 190. Thomas Wilson, Jr., died intestate and unmarried, and his estate descended to his son, Benjamin Wilson. The transfer of title from Thomas Wilson to Benjamin Wilson is dated October 10, 1781. To confirm this deed there was an endorsement, not yet obtained, written on the fore deed from Thomas Wilson to Benjamin Wilson, dated December 24, 1781. The will of Benjamin Wilson is dated June 3, 1788, in which he bequeathed his whole estate



to his two sons, John Wilson and Robert Clibborn Wilson. His will is on record in Philadelphia in Book-U, page 19. March 28, 1772, John Wilson granted a moiety or one half of this land to his brother, Robert Clibborn Wilson, and the latter owned all the land. Then on March 19, 1788, Robert Clibborn Wilson, who still lived in Ireland, sent his power of attorney to Benjamin Wilson, a merchant in the city of Philadelphia, to sell his land in Franconia township.

Following the aforementioned line northwest to the north corner of Benjamin Krupp's lot as a starting point, then go out that road to the County Line and down the same to the road coming across to Leidy's church, and then half way out to the Cowpath, then up along Freed's and Umstead's line to the place of beginning, and in this area you have a tract of 1000 acres, with a history to it.

On the third and fourth of July, 1682, William Penn, Esq., proprietary of the province of Pennsylvania, by his indenture of lease and release granted and confirmed to Thomas Harley, of Kingsham Court, in Herefordshire, in the Kingdom of Great Britain, 5000 acres of land in the said Province of Pennsylvania, to have and to hold by him, his heirs and assigns forever. After the death of Thomas Harley, Sr., the said tract of 5000 acres of land descended to his son and heir, Thomas Harley, Jr., of the same place, and he by his indenture, dated August 15, 1699, granted and confirmed the said 5000 acres of land to Thomas Fairman, of Shackamaxon, in the county of Philadelphia and province of Pennsylvania. Then by virtue of two warrants granted under the hands of the then commissioners of property for 500 acres each, the one dated May 28 and the other September 10, 1708, there was surveyed and laid out to Thomas Fairman, November 6 ensuing, a tract of 1000 acres as part of 5000 acres, as in and by the said warrants recorded in the Surveyor General's office. And further to confirm the grant William Penn by a certain patent under the hands of Edward Shippen, Griffith Owen and James Logan, commissioners of property, for the further confirmation caused the great seal to be fixed thereto as in and by the said patent. The said Thomas Fairman now having his tract of 1000 acres, located, surveyed and confirmed to him, almost immediately, by his indenture dated December 10, 1708, granted the whole tract of 1000 acres to Samuel Marmion, a merchant of the city of Philadelphia. Mr. Marmion owned this land fifteen years until the settlers began to push into the country for homes, when he and his wife Elizabeth and Royre Edmond, by their indenture dated July 25, 1723, granted the said 1000 acres to Richard Hill, a merchant of the city of Philadelphia. After owning it four years Mr. Hill by lease and release dated March 25 and 26, 1727, conveyed the same tract to John Weems, of the county of Philadelphia, and after two years, Mr. Weems conveyed by lease and release, dated March 13 and 14, 1729, his large tract of land with the appurtenances, to George Stuart, of the county of Philadelphia. It would appear by the appurtenances that some effort for improvement of the land had been made by this time. But after five years, by their conveyance dated February

10, 1734, Mr. Stuart and wife Jane transferred the whole tract of 1000 acres to a German whose name was George Cressman, who gradually sold it in smaller tracts. Just on the northwest of this tract was another 1000-acre tract which John Budd and Humphrey Murrey sold out in smaller farms or plantations. The recitals give that William Penn granted 3000 acres of land to John Wilmer July 5, 1699, who granted the same to Rudolph Janney February 2, 1702, and the latter sold the same to John Budd and Sarah Murrey, deceased, November 18, 1708, and Humphrey Murrey being her son and heir. They in partnership had 1000 acres of land as part of the 3000 acres, located just northwest of the aforesaid line in the north corner of the township. It extended up to the Branch Creek and southwest to the corner of Benjamin Krupp's land, a point already noted. From there on speculators, several Pastorius families, James Steel and others, had smaller tracts westward in the township which they sold to actual settlers. In cutting up their lands into farms much of it was cut into long narrow strips which can still be seen, the object of which was to have water and meadows on each farm. Many of the old landmarks are still visible, especially where the long narrow strips cut across the Indian Creek by Budd and Murrey, which are still seen as you travel along the turnpike to Telford or Souderton and gaze over the Indian Creek Valley.

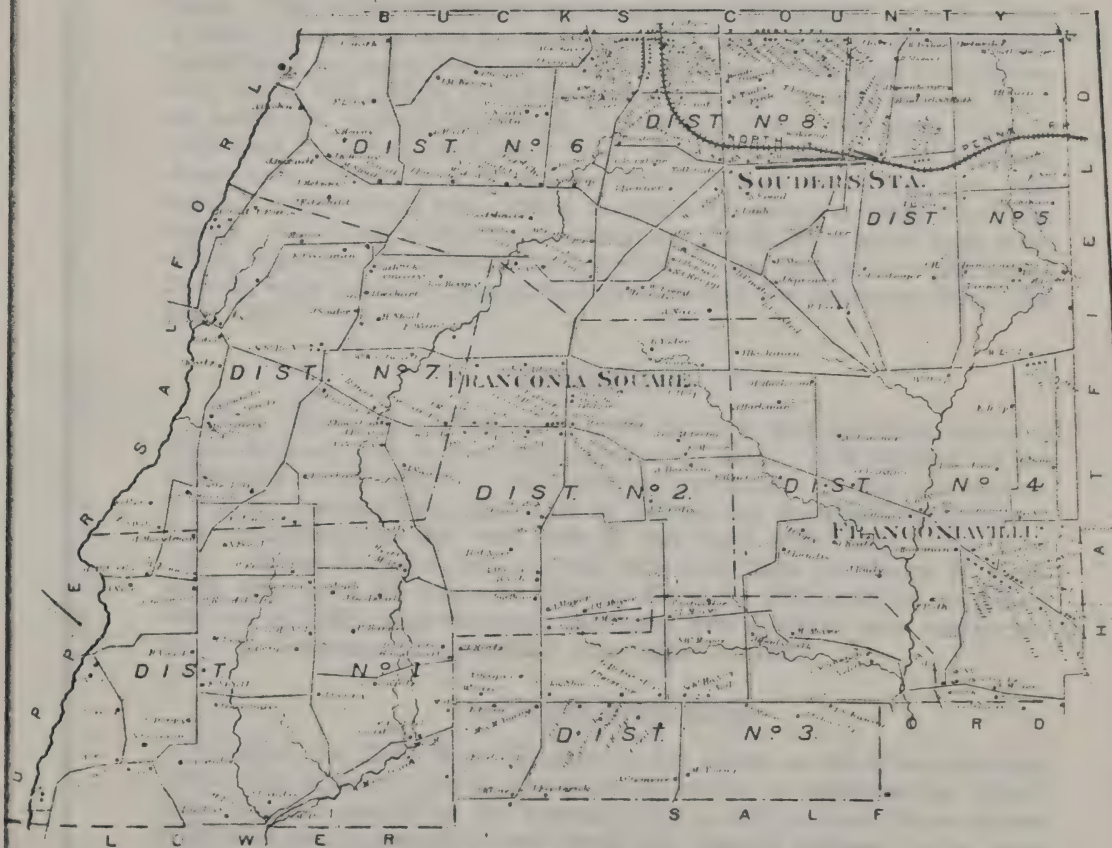
FRANCONIA

The upper part of the township was known as Indianfield for a long time, even as late as 1809. Christian Funk in his *Mirror*, page 43, calls the Mennonite church the Indianfield congregation. On page 7 he says: "In the year 1776 a meeting was held in Indian Field township." Franconia was surveyed and separated from Salford in 1731 and contains 9520 acres, or 14,875 (14 7/8) square miles. The name Franconia is derived from an old duchy which afterward formed a circle of the German Empire and signifies "Land of the Franks," whence also France. Franconia township is situated in the northeastern part of the country, joining Bucks county on the northeast. The land is of good quality and is sufficiently undulating for excellent drainage, the streamlets flowing into the headwaters of the Indian Creek and the Skippack, both of which rise at the County Line and flow through the township, affording light water power for several miles. The East Branch of the Perkiomen Creek flows along the northwestern boundary of the township and separates Franconia from Salford, but drains a very small portion of its surface. On the southwest are the townships of Upper and Lower Salford and on the southeast is Hatfield township.

The first postoffice in the township was kept in the private house of George Bilger, not far from the Indian Creek Reformed church, and was called Franconia postoffice. It was obtained under the Democratic administration of Martin Van Buren as near as recollected in 1839 or 1840. The Ettingers, who lived in Upper Salford, a mile or two south of Sumneytown, had the contract to carry the mail, which was carried

by a boy on horseback in all kinds of weather from Sumneytown to George Bilger's in Franconia and return once a week — every Thursday.

About the year 1834 the store at Franconia Square was opened by Jacob S. Harley, who took in for his assistant his nephew, Samuel H. Cassel. At that time all goods were conveyed from Philadelphia on teams, which required a good deal of labor. Daniel L. Moyer kept the store in Harleysville some time after Mr. Harley had left that place, and about the year 1841 Mr. Moyer and Mr. Harley made a change, the latter returning to Harleysville and the former to Franconia Square. But Mr. Harley, after being in Harleysville one year, in 1842 sold out his interest in the store to his partner, Samuel H. Cassel, and opened a store in Franconiaville, now Elroy.



FRANCONIA

Map of Franconia Township

During the administration of President Tyler, about the year 1844, a postoffice was obtained at what was then called Cressmanville, which name was changed to Tylersport, and about the same time a postoffice was obtained in Harleysville and the Franconia postoffice was removed from Bilger's to Franconia Square. The mail facilities were very poor in those days and mail matter was scarce. Printers had to deliver their newspapers to their subscribers by some arrangement of their own. In 1852 they began to receive mail twice a week. The route commenced Wednesdays in Sumneytown to Tylersport, Franconia, Harleysville, Schwenksville, Trappe, and return over the same route back to Sumneytown the next day.

Now there are six postoffices in the township and the villages are Morwood, Earlington, Franconia and Elroy; Souderton and Telford being boroughs. The village of Midway, now Reliance has no postoffice. The oldest village in the township is Franconia, though rather a small place there was an unlicensed inn kept there for about twenty years back as far as 1740, by a German whose name was Yost Pannekuk. He is also called Yost Pannecake, and his inn was located down on northwest side of Reuben S. Alderfer's house. He came there in 1727 and remained until May 1760. It is probable that the business drew up to Gerhart's tavern on the Branch Creek about that time, and the inn at Franconia was closed, because the property went into other hands. But there was also a tannery at the Square for a long time, which was known as Wampole's tannery. The last owner was Amos Barndt, who became despondent and closed the business about the year 1870.

EARLINGTON

The village of Earlington is quite modern and contains ten or a dozen houses, with a store and blacksmith shop. It is located on the Allentown road, about a mile above Franconia, at the intersection of a road leading from Morwood to Telford, on the Reading Railway. The farmhouse on the east side of the road was there already in 1850. About the year 1880 a hotel was built here by Henry N. Frederick, who sold the same to Mahlon Kline in 1883, and he to Albert Gerhart in 1885, who changed the hotel into a store, now conducted by U. S. Gehman. A postoffice was gotten in 1890.

DRAFT OF CIVIL WAR

During the Civil War, Franconia, the same as all other districts, was called upon to furnish her quota of troops to suppress the Rebellion. But the people of the township are mostly of that class whose principles are opposed to war, and who strictly adhere to the principles of peace. The majority being members of the Mennonite denomination. The quota of each district could not be filled by volunteers out of each district. Under those circumstances there were three or more drafts made in the country to fill up the Army. The first draft was made in October, 1862, and 64 men were drafted in Franconia.

During the administration of President Tyler, about the year 1844, a postoffice was obtained at what was then called Crosswicks, which name was changed to Tylersport, and about the same time a postoffice was obtained in Honesville and the Franconia postoffice was removed from Bluffs to Franconia Square. The mail facilities were very poor in those days and mail matter was scarce. Business men and their newspapers to their subscribers by some arrangement of their own. In 1852 they began to receive mail twice a week. The route commenced Wednesday in Sunnyside to Tylersport, Franconia, Honesville, Schwenksville, Trappe, and return over the same route back to Sunnyside the next day.

Now there are six postoffices in the township and the villages are Monroeville, Earlinton, Franconia and Elroy, Sanderson and Telford being postoffices. The village of Midway, now Belmore, has no post office. The oldest village in the township is Franconia, though there is a small place there was an unincorporated village for about 10 years back as far as 1740, by a German whose name was Yost Kunk. He is also called Yost Kunk, and his son was located town on northwest side of Reuben S. Alder's house. He came there in 1727 and remained until May 1780. It is probable that the business drew up to Gerhart's tavern on the Branch Creek about the time the inn at Franconia was closed, because the property went into hands. But there was also a tavern at the Square to a long time, which was known as Wampler's tavern. The last owner was Adam Burch, who became dependent and closed the business about the year 1870.

EARLINGTON

The village of Earlinton is quite modern and contains few of the broken houses with a stone and blacksmith shop. It is located on the Allentown road, about a mile above Franconia, at the intersection of a road leading from Monroeville to Telford, on the Reading Railway. The farmhouse on the east side of the road was there already in 1850. About the year 1880 a hotel was built here by Henry M. Frank, who sold the same to Mahon Kline in 1883, and he to Albert Gerhart in 1885, who changed the hotel into a store, now conducted by U. S. Gerhart. A postoffice was gotten in 1885.

DRAFT OF CIVIL WAR

During the Civil War, nearly the same as all the people of the township are mostly of that class who are called upon to furnish the quota of troops to support the rebellion. But the people of the township are mostly of that class who are called upon to furnish the quota of troops to support the rebellion. But the people of the township are mostly of that class who are called upon to furnish the quota of troops to support the rebellion.

The draft was not enforced after it was made, if my memory is correct, because there were volunteers enough enlisting to fill up the army without enforcing the draft. We will, however, give the names of those drafted:

William Macknet	Aaron Rittenhouse
Samuel Swartley	Benjamin Krupp
George Derstine	William Gerhard
Noah Freed	Michael Young
Wm. Weidmoyer	Wm. D. Hunsberger
Josiah Umstead	Jonas G. Leidy
Abraham Alderfer	Charles Wambold
Edmund Souder	Jacob S. Leidy
Edmund Souder	Ephraim Benner
Henry K. Landes	Abraham Krupp
John Bergey	Henry S. Klockner
Joseph Plector	Christian Benner
Christ Hunsberger	John Zoller
Daniel B. Hockman	Jacob Hens
John M. Delp	Abraham Nyce
Aaron Bert	Reuben Hartzel
Jonas Freed	Aaron Lewis
Abraham Kratz	Abraham G. Ziegler
Joseph K. Diehle	Abraham Derstine
John Keller	Michael K. Sholl
Jesse Underkoffler	William Uenangst
Aaron Hens	David Ruth
Thomas Leidy	Isaac Benner
Joseph M. Hagy	Jonas L. Moyer
Elias W. Shefer	William Hengey
Jonas Bergey	Peter Comfort
John Dreisbach	William Oberholtzer
Tobias Swartley	John C. Moyer
Jacob Henge	Tobias Benner
Aaron Benner	George Hunsberger
Tobias Wyatt	John Frederick
Nathan Trumbower	Andrew Hens
Franklin Zepp	

The people were generally opposed to the war, and yet they wanted to see the Government sustained and the rebels defeated, and for that purpose a "bounty" was offered to all who would enlist so as to get men enough without drafting. But there were also a few tricky ones amongst them called "bounty jumpers." They enlisted and received their bounty, and as soon afterward as they could they took the slip, went into another county or town and enlisted again and drew another bounty or premium.

The second draft was made in Norristown May 31 and June 1, 1864. But again they received men enough without enforcing the

draft. Here is what was said by the **Norristown Herald and Free Press—extra*** at that time: "The draft in the Sixth Congressional took place Tuesday, May 31, and Wednesday, June 1. Not much interest was manifested in the proceedings, and it is believed the quotas have been filled and that credits for the whole number will yet be received, in which case the present draft would amount to nothing. This morning the Provost Marshall received a credit of 47 for the District at large, which will be deducted from the 'quota'."

The third and last draft was made on March 2 and 3, 1865. This draft made the people hustle. Some men bought a man to go in their place and paid as high as \$1000 for the substitute. Others paid less. Those belonging to the Mennonite and Dunkard churches and members of other churches holding the same principles, paid \$300 exemption fines and were released. As we want the names of those who were drawn in Franconia to go down into history, we will give the list as it was published the next day, March 4, 1865 (207 in box — 27 quota — 54 drawn):

William N. Frederick, farmer
 Samuel G. Bergey, farmer
 Samuel M. Freed, shoemaker
 John Bean, farmer
 William Gerhart, farmer
 John K. Alderfer, farmer
 Christian D. Hunsberger, farmer
 Jacob D. Stover, farmer
 Reuben Hartzell, farmer
 A. A. Hunsberger, mason
 Tobias H. Weil, farmer
 Alex Shive, tinsmith
 Jonathan Barndt, farmer
 John Dreisbach, laborer
 Samuel Wentzel, mason
 Samuel D. Kline, mason
 Jonas Beelor, carpenter
 Isaac H. Hackman, cigarmaker
 Esicia Moyer, tobacconist
 Oliver Leidy, laborer
 Jonas L. Moyer, farmer
 Amos W. Barndt, tanner
 Reuben Yoder, farmer
 George Funk, mason
 John Moyer, carpenter
 John C. Moyer, farmer
 Jonas M. Moyer, farmer
 Frederick Hunsberger, farmer
 John P. Benner, carpenter
 Isaac C. Godshall, farmer

*A copy in the Roy C. Kulp collection.

Henry K. Landes, laborer
Abraham D. Clemmer, farmer
Samuel S. Wile, farmer
Jacob Nyce, shoemaker
George Shoemaker, laborer
Abraham Kratz, farmer
Jonas H. Godshalk, farmer
Isaac Haldeman, laborer
George D. Delp, farmer
William Oberholtzer, farmer
Henry C. Godshalk, farmer
Frederick Miller, laborer
Elias K. Nyce, farmer
George Driver, laborer
Joseph Hagey, mason
Isaac H. Freed, tobacconist
Abraham G. Nyce, farmer
Henry S. Kolb, farmer
John C. Kratz, farmer
Michael S. Swartley, farmer
William Shilling, farmer
David W. Oberholtzer, farmer
Abram D. Hagey, mason
Louis W. Barndt, miller

JAMES DICKINSON — LANDOWNER

Commencing down at the Skippack on the line dividing Lower Salford from Franconia township and going northwest up the road to the road leading to Souderton at Edwin Nice's, 200 perches; then go northeast along said road and a line that is not in the road across to the north corner of Benjamin Krupp's land, 480 perches; then southeast along the Umstead farm and Freed's farm 200 perches to the road leading to Souderton, then take a straight course southwest crossing the Cowpath at the Skippack, 480 perches to the place of beginning, and we have the outlines of James Dickinson's land, 600 acres.

The brief title recites that James Dickinson, of the parish of Bingham, in Cumberland county, Great Britain, about the year 1714 purchased from several parties in all 600 acres, to be located in Pennsylvania; and there was surveyed in one entire tract 600 acres that were granted, conveyed and confirmed to him, the said James Dickinson by a patent dated the 15th day of ye 8th month, 1714, and recorded in Patent Book A, Volume 5, page 82. The said patent is in good condition and is well taken care of by Rev. Michael Moyer. But for a man in England to speculate in land in Pennsylvania was a slow business, as the stream of emigration was westward to Lancaster, Dauphin and York counties. But some time after receiving his patent he sold to his nephew, James Robinson, 200 acres, and some time after that 100 acres more. This land was at the southwest end of the

tract, and Mr. Dickinson had a conveyance drawn by lease and release at his home for his nephew, James Robinson, and had it confirmed and acknowledged before Thomas James Mayor of the city of Carlisle, in Cumberland county, England, dated July 11, 1735.

Seeing the inconvenience of getting his land into market he authorized an agent, named Israel Pemberton, of the city of Philadelphia, with a power of attorney dated March 22, 1732, to sell his land in Pennsylvania. For the remaining 300 acres Mr. Pemberton, the agent, found a purchaser named Dielman Kolb, of Lower Salford, who was willing to try a little speculation. To him a conveyance was granted for those 300 acres, dated December 4, 1734. Fourteen years later two men of the same faith as his came along and purchased his entire tract in Franconia township. These men were Jacob Hackman and Henry Clemmer. To the former he sold 144 acres and to the latter 156 acres. The conveyances are both dated January 2, 1749.

Dielman Kolb was a Mennonite minister and a large land owner in Lower Salford, where he owned about 500 acres. He was an influential man and one of the founders of the Mennonite Church in Salford in 1738. He died December 28, 1756. So says the venerable David Shultze, of Upper Hanover, in his Journal.

The Hackman Farm

In dividing their lands the speculators in land always cut it in such a way that there was a stream or a spring on each tract, and this was the case with the Hackman farm. a lively little stream meandering through the woods made it a pleasant place to live, so the first house was built near the stream. The present dwelling is probably on the same site. It is nicely located, sloping gently toward the stream, with meadows green in summer. It is a short distance back from the Allentown road, making it a desirable place to live. The boundaries of the farm are thus given at the time of the purchase from Dielman Kolb: Beginning at a post set for a corner in line of James Robinson's land, then northwest 100 perches to a post, then by lands of Jacob Detweiler, George Stump, Ulrich Hunsberger and Bastian Benner, northeast 240 perches to a tree marked for a corner, then by Bastian Benner's land southwest 78 perches to a post, then by Henry Clymer's land southwest 31 perches to a white oak, then by the same southeast 34 perches to a post, then by the same southwest 200 perches to the place of beginning, containing 144 perches.

Jacob Hackman was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Overholtzer, of Franconia, and they had five children: Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Catherine and John. As John was the only son he received the farm after the death of his father. Elizabeth, the oldest daughter, was married to Henry Martin, of Manor township, Lancaster county. Mary was the wife of Daniel Hagey, whose land joined the latter. Ann was the wife of Michael Shoemaker, who lived a short distance westward. Catherine was single yet at the time of settling their father's

estate, November 17, 1778. Jacob Hackman died intestate and his son John paid £924 for the farm. John increased his acres considerably during his lifetime, so that at the time of his death in 1831 he was the owner of 184 acres. He also died intestate and left four children, namely: Elizabeth, wife of Frederick Hunsberger, and Mary, wife of John Kline. Henry was the oldest son.

The Clemmer Farm

The other tract containing 156 acres which Dielman Kolb and wife Elizabeth sold to Heinrich Clemmer January 2, 1749, for the sum of £120, is described as follows: Beginning at a post, then by the James Robinson land northeast 100 perches to a post in a line of Thomas Wilson's land, then northeast by said Wilson's land 240 perches to a black oak marked for a corner, then northwest by Ludwick Henge's and Bastian Benner's land 122 perches to a post set at another corner, then by Jacob Hackman's land southwest 31 perches, then by said Hackman's land southeast 34 perches to a post, then by the same southwest 200 perches to the place of beginning, containing 156 acres. This tract includes the farm of Abraham D. Clemmer, Jacob A. Freed and Rev. Josiah Clemmer. The residence of Abraham C. Clemmer is the old homestead and is nicely located with all that is necessary to a farm.

The date when the plantation passed from Heinrich Clemmer to his son Abraham appears to have been in 1791, after the death of the former, for we find that the heirs of Heinrich Clemmer, Jacob Oberholtzer and wife Elizabeth, Henry Clemmer and wife Mary, John Clemmer and wife Margaret, Valentine Clemmer and wife Hannah, Jacob Moyer and wife Mary, Henry Lederach and Jacob Geil, granted the same to Abraham Clemmer, February 17, 1791. But Abraham Clemmer had already purchased a lot of 3 acres and 144 perches of woodland from the Wilson estate, being part of 800 acres, May 23, 1789. Another thing appears probable — that Abraham Clemmer Sr., built the tenement out at the Allentown road, now the residence of Rev. Josiah Clemmer, in 1824, and cut about 30 acres out of his farm for his own use, while he sold the old homestead with 125 acres and 120 perches to his son, Abraham Clemmer, Jr., and gave conveyance dated April 8, 1825. The latter owned the farm until 1859, when it was transferred to Abraham D. Clemmer, the present owner.

When the farm belonging to Jacob A. Freed was separated from the old homestead, or for who it was built, I have not investigated.

The Hagey Farm

The Hagey farm has never been out of that name, although it is not a very old farm, it is, nevertheless, in the fifth generation of Hageys. The titles show that Daniel Hagey purchased 60 acres of land from James Robinson, May 27, 1773, and 20 acres more as the remainder of the Wilson tract, April 10, 1790. The titles show further that Daniel

Hagey owned this farm 65 years (he must have been very old when he died), or until March 10, 1838, when he sold his farm of 80 acres to his son for \$3360. John Hagey and his wife sold to their son, Abraham Hagey, the same farm of 70 acres October 29, 1851. Abraham Hagey sold to his son, Jonas Hagey, the farm of 86 acres April 10, 1867. Jonas Hagey to his son, Abraham D. Hagey, the same farm April 18, 1896.

James Robinson

James Robinson, who purchased 300 acres of land in Franconia from his uncle, James Dickinson, in 1735, was about the only Englishman living in the township at that time. He appears to have been one of the first men in the township and made improvements on the farm now belonging to Samuel Hansel. He apparently was on the land — at least in this country in 1717. On October 29, 1717, he paid the quitrent due on 600 acres of land near Skippack, in Philadelphia county, for three years and a half, to James Dickinson. We also have the following:

"2 mo. 21, 1732-3. Rec'd Quitrent of James Robinson for 600 As Franconia 15 years in full.

£4. 10.0 6. 15.0."

Mr. Robinson also owned other land beside this Franconia tract, as the following will show:

"3 mo. 1735, James Robinson rec'd of him in full for 267 as & ½ at Perkasio @ £15. 10. £41. 9. 2.

for ye Int. of that sum 10 mos. 2. 1. 4.

43. 10. 6.

James Robinson made his will dated the 7th day of the 4th month, 1751, and therein devised this tract of land in Franconia to his two sons, James and John. The elder son James was to have 180 acres and the youngest son John the remaining 120 acres, described as follows: Beginning at a stone set for a corner of Wilson's land, then northwest by George Kriebel's land and the land late of Heidrick and Swartz 111 perches to a stone, a corner of James Robinson's land, then by the same northeast 208 perches and three quarters to a stone, then southeast by said Robinson's land 111 perches to a stone in a line of Wilson's land, then southwest by said line 208 perches and three quarters to the place of beginning, containing about 120 acres, with houses and buildings, barns, stables, orchards, meadows, etc.

This deed was acknowledged before Archie McClean June 17, 1769. George Shelmire, witness. James Robinson, Jr., granted the deed to his brother, John Robinson, June 1, 1769.

John Althouse

John Robinson, weaver, and wife, Mary, of Franconia, sold their entire plantation to William Aldehouse (Althouse), of the same township for £760, May 22, 1771, still having the same metes and measurements. This conveyance was acknowledged before William Parr, Esq., on the above date. It appears as if William Althouse bought this farm for his son John. William did not live here, but he made his will all the same, dated February 8, 1779, which was probated December 5, 1780, in which he says his son John was to have the plantation whereon he now dwells, containing 140 acres. John was to pay his four sisters each £100, namely to Elizabeth, Crestena, Catarina, and Magdalena, at the expiration of five years, with lawful interest from the date hereof; the interest to be paid yearly. John was not to have any right to any other property. "I give and devise unto my beloved wife Margaret one mare with saddle and bridle at her choice, and one cow, and both cow and mare to be well kept on his (John's) plantation provided for otherwise plentifully." The oldest daughter Margaret was to have five pounds besides what she already had. "My beloved daughter Elizabeth is to have all the Plantation I now live on. She shall pay to the widow two hundred pounds." Another daughter Aulis or Alice is mentioned. The witnesses to the will were Jacob Reed and George Shive.

John Althouse purchased of the Wilson estate 50 acres July 28, 1789, which was, in fact, nearly 56 acres, as the following will show: Beginning at a post, a corner of John Althouse's land and other land, then by the same southwest 176 perches to a post, then by George Kriebel's land southeast 50 perches and nine-tenths of a perch, then by a lot intended to be granted to William Tennis and other of Wilson's land northeast 176 perches, then northwest 50 and nine-tenths perches by land intended to be granted to Daniel Hagey to the place of beginning. This land is situated on the southeast side of the Skippack alongside of his other land. Less than a year later, April 19, 1790, Mr. Althouse purchased yet: 27 acres and 117 perches more from the same estate by their attorney, Benjamin Wilson. John Althouse also owned 50 acres of land in Hilltown. He also built the saw mill that was on his farm and that may have been some cause for him buying those tracts of woodland just mentioned. Some traces of the sawmill and race may yet be seen. John Althouse was a man of strong nerve and force of character, who tried to make money and provide for his family. He died in 1827 if I mistake not. He had two sons, Henry and John, and five daughters. At the time the estate was settled in 1828 Henry was dead, but he also left some children.

John Althouse, sawmiller, and wife Sophia granted to their son Henry 84 acres of land for \$4266, July 7, 1815. This was the farm now belonging to Samuel Sellers, near Elroy, but which has since been reduced to 52 acres. Whether John Althouse or his son Henry built the tenement on the place I cannot say. As the land was mostly on the southeast side of the Skippack and 50 acres of the land had been

of the Wilson tract the residence was built up in the field at a distance from any public road. At that time the Wilson tract was nearly all covered with forest and was known as the "Seven Hundred." But after owning his farm ten or eleven years Henry Althouse died intestate and his estate was settled in 1827. Letters of administration on his estate had been granted to his son, Jacob Althouse, and Benjamin Reiff, Esq., who sold the farm, still containing 84 acres, to Frederick Rudy, of Upper Salford, and granted a conveyance dated February 27, 1827. Henry Althouse had a family of children, but the names of only two of them have been obtained. They are Jacob and Mary, who was married to George Heist.

Frederick Rudy came to stay and lived here 30 years. He made his will dated July 14, 1857, and therein devised his farm containing yet 79 acres, bounded by lands of Charles Schwenk, Abraham Hagey, Enos Hagey and a public road, to his son, Jesse Rudy. But for some cause or other Jesse and his wife sold their farm containing yet 52 acres fifteen years later to Jacob Ruth, of Franconiaville, as the place was then called, and granted a conveyance dated April 1, 1872. Four years later Ruth and wife, on March 30, 1876, conveyed the farm to Richard Nice, of Franconia, and still four years later December 8, 1880, Nice and wife conveyed the same to Samuel Sellers, the present owner. Mr. Sellers did not delay long until he removed the residence and all the outbuildings up to the road, where he now has a nice and pleasant home, with comfortable surroundings.

But we must again turn back to the estate of John Althouse. His son Henry was one of the oldest of the family and we have no more to say of him. Margaret Althouse was married to George Schwenk, son of Nicholas Schwenk, of Harleysville. They bought her father's farm and lived and died there. Elizabeth Althouse married Joseph Drake, and they lived on the farm now owned by Samuel Krieble, on the western line of Hatfield township. Catharine Althouse married Tobias Sholl, of Franconia. Mary Althouse married John Bleyler, and they lived, if I mistake not, at the Springhouse in Lower Gwynedd. Hannah Althouse married Philip Nease; of these I know nothing. John Althouse, Jr.

Of George Schwenk's family I know but little. They had a son Charles who owned the farm after his parents were dead. He died and his widow, Diana Schwenk, took out letters of administration and sold the farm, still containing 93 acres and 62 perches, to Samuel Hansel, March 19, 1875. Mr. Hansel is the present owner, but as he is well advanced in years would like to sell.

Jacob Shoemaker

James Robinson, Jr., who received 180 acres from his father, had also some improvements on his land, but as no wife is mentioned, he appears to have been unmarried, and when his brother John left the neighborhood he went along, for we find that he afterward lived in Plymouth township, when he sold his land to two men on the same

day, for so the conveyances are drawn. The date is May 27, 1773, when the conveyance was granted to Michael Shoemaker for 120 acres and to his brother-in-law, Daniel Hagey, for 60 acres.

Michael Shoemaker was a son of Jacob Shoemaker, of Lower Salford, and he and his brother, George Shoemaker, of East Perkio-men, now Skippack township, were the administrators who settled their father's estate. Besides that, Michael Shoemaker was quite a prominent man and a man with a strong force of character. They were a Mennonite family.

Michael Shoemaker paid £850 for his 120 acres and some improvements, and the tract is thus described: Beginning at a stone, a corner of Daniel Hagey's land, then southeast by the same 117 perches to a stake in a line of said Hagey's land, then by the same and John Althouse's land southwest 216 perches to a stone, a corner in a line of John Swartz, then by the same and Andrew Swartz's land northwest 121 perches to another stone, a corner, then northeast by land of Jacob Detweiler 215 perches and four-tenths of a perch to the place of beginning, containing 120 acres. It was about the year 1820 when Michael Shoemaker and wife Ann sold 40 acres of their land to John Clemens, who built a house and other building on it for his son-in-law, John Godshalk, of Towamencin. This John Godshalk is well remembered yet. He used to go around buying up calves for the Philadelphia and New York markets, on account of which, and to distinguish him from other Godshalks, he was given the euphonious name of "Homily Goldshalk." In Pennsylvania German a calf is called a "homily," from the German "hammel."

Mr. Godshalk lived at this place 30 or 40 years and after his death his son Abraham lived here all his lifetime until February 20, 1895. After the death of John Godshalk, 30 acres of the land were sold to another party, and only 10 acres were left to Abraham.

On April 8, 1824, Michael Shoemaker and wife Ann transferred to their son, Michael Shoemaker, Jr., their plantation containing yet 80 acres for £1700; bounded by lands of Andrew Swartz, John Clemens, Daniel Hagey, John Althouse and Isaac Swartz. Michael Shoemaker, Jr., sold the same plantation to his son-in-law, Jonas Moyer, February 15, 1840. Twenty-six years later April 19, 1866, Jonas Moyer sold his farm of 85 acres to his son, Rev. Michael Moyer, the present owner.

THE SHOLL FARMS

We have but a very limited data of a large tract of land which comprises the Sholl farms, near Morwood, now included in the farms of Jacob C. Godshall, William Oberholtzer, Nathaniel Willauer, Christian D. Souder and the greater part of the farm of John Bergey.

Frederick Sholl, the ancestor, came to Pennsylvania September 11, 1728, and some years later we find him owning a tract of land on the plateau between the Indian Creek and the Branch. Though it lay

high it was nicely drained by a tributary of the Indian Creek, the source of which was a beautiful spring near which they built the first house. The land was purchased in two tracts, comprising in all 220 acres. The one tract contained, as near as known, 137 acres and the other tract about 93 acres. Some time after the first house was built there was another tenement erected, probably for a son-in-law, whose name was John Segler or Sechler, who owned the place where Christian D. Souder now lives, for some time about the year 1800.

The first owner of this land was Frederick Scholl, the second was his son, George Sholl, who, with his wife Elizabeth, conveyed a messuage and 162 acres and 57 perches of land, in two tracts, to their son, Tobias Sholl, October 5, 1801. It is thus described: Beginning at a corner of Jacob Godshall's land, then by the same southeast 114 perches to a stone, a corner, then by land of John Segler the next four courses and distances to a corner in a line of John Landes' land, then by the same and Henry Landes' land northwest 182 perches to a corner of the late Giles (Yelles) Landes land, then by the same and Abraham Kindig's and George Sholl's land 169 perches to the place of beginning, containing 1337 acres and 127 perches.

The other tract, containing 24 acres and 90 perches, is thus described: Beginning at a corner in a line of John Detweiler's land, then by land of John Landes northwest 33 perches to a corner of John Segler's land, then by the same the next three courses and distances to a stake in a line of John Detweiler's land, then by the same southwest 82 perches to the place of beginning, containing 24 acres and 90 perches. The small distances along John Segler's land have been omitted intentionally to be more brief.

On June 8, 1812, Tobias Sholl and wife Catharine sold their plantation to Philip Sholl, blacksmith, for £3500. Perhaps if search was made we could find data to prove that Philip Sholl sold his farm to Michael Sholl at some time and the latter to Joseph Sholl, the last Sholl owner.

But we will now turn to the farm of Christian D. Souder, formerly the farm of Henry H. Bergey, which, although somewhat reduced in size, is still large enough. This was the residence of John Segler, of whom we have spoken. We have not investigated this matter, but it would seem to us that he purchased more land as an addition to his lot than he was able to keep, and in consequence lost it all, for we find that Justus Scheetz, High Sheriff of the county of Montgomery, sold the messuage and 68 acres and 111 perches of land, and under his hand and seal, by his deed poll, dated May 11, 1819, granted the same to Frederick Alderfer, of Lower Salford. On March 28, 1823, Mr. Alderfer purchased yet 9 acres and 43 perches from Michael Sholl and wife Lydia, subject to a private road for the use of Philip Sholl. It was bounded by lands of John Detweiler, Philip Sholl, Jacob Landes and Jacob Godshalk. This same property containing a messuage and 77 acres and 154 perches of land Frederick Alderfer and

wife Elizabeth sold to John Kreamer, of Lower Salford, for \$3300, March 29, 1837. After living here eight or nine years Mr. Kreamer died. He was the father of George Kramer, of Kulpsville. Sometime after his death the farm was sold to Henry H. Bergey, who lived here a long time and died here November 13, 1883, though his widow is still living here at an advanced age. The farm now belongs to his son-in-law, Christian D. Souder.

So far as we know Joseph Sholl was the last Sholl living here. Michael lived yet in 1855, but on April 16, 1860, Joseph Sholl and wife Sarah granted to Mary, wife of Monroe Housekeeper, a messuage and 50 acres of land, which they owned eleven years and then conveyed to Jacob C. Godshall, of Franconia, April 4, 1871. Mr. Godshall then purchased yet 14 acres and 120 perches, adjacent to his other land, from William Oberholzer. Mr. Godshall's barn was struck by lightning and burned away on Sunday, August 11, 1895.

ANDREW SCHWARTZ

In the tax list of Salford in 1734 we find the name of Andrew Schwartz, who came to Pennsylvania in company with Valentine Kratz, Christian Moyer, Illes Cassel, Johannes Cassel, Abraham Schwartz, and others, in the ship "Friendship," and arrived at Philadelphia October 16, 1727. We next find him purchasing a tract of land containing 155 acres, located mostly in Franconia township, though it was all in Salford at the time of the purchase, November 13, 1729. This land was purchased from James Steel and wife Martha, of the city of Philadelphia, and the boundaries are thus given: Beginning at the corner of Claus Upleger's land, thence northward 181 perches to a corner of Samuel Meyer's land, thence by the same northeast 140 perches to another corner, then southeast by land of John Julian Stump 181 perches to a corner, then southwest by land of Claus Upleger 140 perches to the place of beginning. This land is situated on the southwest side of the Mill road from Detweiler's schoolhouse up to Jacob Young's corner, then striking a right line with the turnpike as it comes from the Mennonite meeting-house across the fields from Young's over to the other road or township line near the garden of a residence, then down that road to a line between Abraham F. Kratz and Enos Wambold, and then over to said schoolhouse.

The Stump farm now belongs to David D. Moyer, but it then extended over the road. Then we have Clause Upleger, or Uplinger, on the southeast side, and the next year, in 1730, we find Upleger on the Schwartz farm and Schwartz below on the Upleger farm. But then we find that Upleger's tract, instead of containing 155 acres as it did the previous year when Schwartz owned it, now in 1730, contained 182 acres, and 120 perches. It thus appears evident that they exchanged lands because the conveyances show it, and in doing so Upleger reserved 27 acres and 120 perches of his tract, or else he owned only that much land at first and bought the farm above of Schwartz to it, which appears probable. Upleger probably built the

first house near a spring back of Abraham F. Kratz's house, though there was also a spring and lasting water where Enos Wambold lives, but as Upleger lived there, first and Schwartz above where Wambold lives, there is no doubt that each built where he lived. And thus the two tenements were built near each other simultaneously. At that time the farm now belonging to Edwin Nice was owned by Felton Hauseman, but it came into Schwartz's hands sometimes afterward. And it appears that he must have bought that farm soon afterward or else, have built where John Schwartz lives, for a few years later he bought yet some land from Casper Wistar and wife, of Germantown, at the lower end of John Schwartz's farm.

Returning again to the farm above we find that Clause (or Nicholas) Upleger did not live long on that farm, for in August 1730 he made his will and apparently died soon afterward. He was a son-in-law of Christian Moyer, Sr., of Lower Salford.

He ordered in his will that the farm should not be sold until nine years after the date of the will, when the youngest child, which was then 6 years old, would be 15. The name of the oldest son was Nicholas, and the name of this wife was Elizabeth. Another son was named Christian. Catharine Uleger was married to Henry Fefflefinger, and Mary to Jacob Krop or Krupp, but Anna, the youngest daughter, was still single when the farm was sold by the executors Henry Funk, Christian Allebach and Conrad Reiff, in 1739. But by that time the widow, whose name was Catharine, had married a man by the name of Hefflefinger. The following is a copy of Claus Upleger's will. It is not long:

"I, the hereunder written, acknowledge before witnesses on the hereunder written day of the date hereof, that this is my last will or testament, that after my departure or decease all and singular my goods what may be found with the lands and cattle, to wit: All what is there shall thus be ordered and parted. Firstly, all debts shall be paid, and then of the residue my wife shall have the third part, or one-third of all that is left, and the remainder thereof shall be parted among my five children that are yet in being, in this manner and form that one shall have so much as the other or divide the same equally, but not before my youngest child is fifteen years old, which is now six years old. Further it is my will, counsel and desire that Henry Funk, Christian Allebach and Conrad Reil shall be guardians, or executors over my wife, children and all the goods which I left behind, and it is my prayer and desire that they shall take so much care of the same as possible they can. And if they find it good and beneficial to sell my plantation if my wife and children cannot manage the same till the time that they should divide. Dated the third day of August, 1730.

his
CLAUS (OX) OBLIEGER."
mark

His witnesses were Jacob Funk, Martin Hauser, Samuel Meier and Christian Stauffer.

Those three executors already named sold the farm located mostly in Franconia township, in two tracts; the main farm being 176 acres, and the other a lot of six acres and 120 perches, both to George Stump, of Franconia, and all the sons and daughters, heirs and legatees of the aforementioned will, signed the release and grant of the said two tracts of land with the appurtenances belonging thereto, under the date of December 6, 1739. The lot of 6 acres mentioned here undoubtedly was the old log house and six acres and 120 perches of land where Abraham F. Kratz lives. Mr. Stump then owned this property a little over five years, when he sold the same plantation and lot to Rudolph Harley June 5, 1744. The latter owned this farm 40 years and in the meantime added additional tracts thereto until he owned at least 244 acres. But as the additional tracts were woodland in Lower Salford I will omit them from further description.

Sometime after purchasing the farm on the Indian Creek Rudolph Harley and wife Mary conveyed the main farm, then containing 170 acres and 128 perches of land, to their son, Henry Harley, May 1784. And the other farm, part of which now belongs to Abraham F. Kratz, then containing 63 acres and 123 perches, with a disconnected tract of 10 acres of woodland, making in all 73 acres and 123 perches he and his wife conveyed to their son, Samuel Harley, at the same time, May 3, 1784.

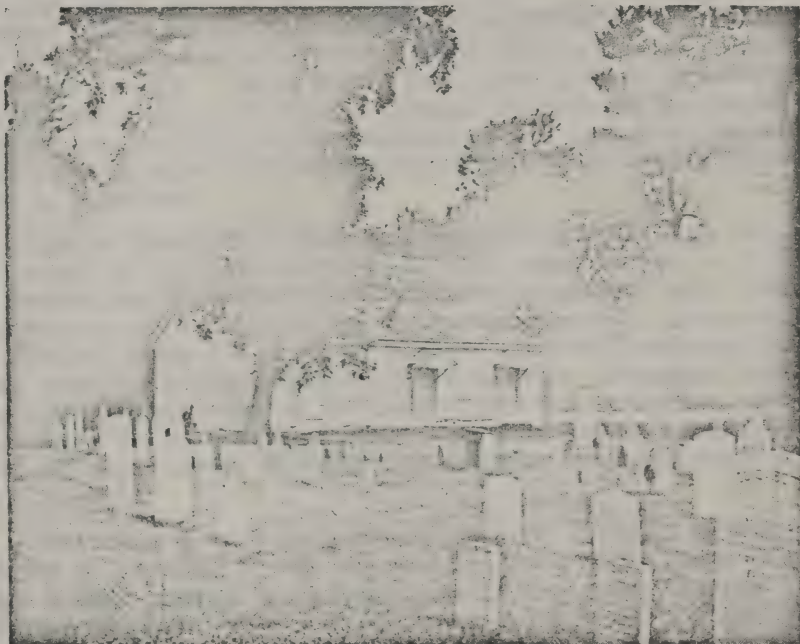
Henry Harley owned this farm 16 years, and in the meantime added yet several acres on the Lower Salford side. But on March 31, 1800, Henry Harley and wife Elizabeth conveyed their farm in two tracts, then containing only 140 acres and 114 perches, to Isaac Klein, of Lower Salford. He owned this farm many years and then divided it among his three sons, Gabriel, Samuel and John. John Klein received the old homestead where Enos Wambold lives, and lived and died there. After his death his son Jacob owned the farm as long as he lived, and after his death his son-in-law, the present owner.

Samuel Klein received that part of farm now owned by Samuel K. Cassel, who is a grandson. After the death of Samuel Kline the farm went into the hands of his son-in-law, Jacob Cassel, and afterward to the present owner.

Gabriel Klein received the upper part of the farm including the land around the Harley burial ground. He sold his farm to Abraham Kulp, now owned by his son Jacob, but reserved some of the land for lots, where he erected cheap houses for poor people to live in, and he received the rents. Not only these, but he owned some other cheap little houses over the country, from which he drew the rents while he himself lived here at the road.

The graveyard, known as Harley's burying ground, located on this tract, was reserved in the conveyance when the farm was sold by

Henry Harley to Isaac Klein, and was not sold. This burial place undoubtedly was commenced in 1730 when Claus Upleger was buried on his own land, for there were no churches organized nor meeting-houses built yet at that time. At some time during those 16 years in which Henry Harley owned this property he sold about 42 acres of land at the upper end to George Weidner, who built a tenement at the northwest corner of the tract, and their bakeoven stood at the line of Abraham Delp's land. That triangular tract of Abraham Delp's land, for a long time in timber, was also added to the Weidner farm. This farm was owned by Samuel Johnson before and after 1850. Afterward by Joseph Frederick.



Klein's Meeting House — Harley Burying Grounds

ONE THOUSAND ACRES

A history of the ownership of the thousand-acre tract around **Souderton** was given in the introductory remarks, but nothing was said about the division of the land into plantations or farms, which we will now try to explain as the most difficult matter in the township, owing to the removal of old landmarks in cutting up the land into lots in and around the borough of Souderton.

After this land had been surveyed its ownership was duly recognized by other parties and several efforts were made to sell some of

the land, but the land was not clear of incumbrance and there was fear of trouble about it, owing to the will of Richard Hill, a former owner of the land, who, it appears, had let out some of his land to renters or purchasers who did not pay, and in his will, dated August 28, 1729, gave and devised all the rents and profits due him on said 1000 acres to his nephew, Joseph Hill, and his heirs. He had, however, sold the land to John Weems two years before the will was made. Weems sold to George Stuart March 13, 1729.

These renters may have been several Welshmen who had lived on the land and made some improvements, as related by tradition handed down through several generations, and my own recollection that the place was called Welshtown before the railroad was built. Several places are pointed out along Water Street as the places where the Welsh had lived, while others place them farther apart and down as far as Freed's. I have a note from some author, I know not who, as follows: "John Mathias and Thomas Morgan at first settled in a locality, which, from the fact afterward was known as Welshtown, although they soon afterward removed to Hilltown, and the land was sold to Germans."

George Stuart, an Englishman, bought the land "with the appurtenances" in 1729 and held it until 1734, when he sold it to George Cressman, but they had some difficulty in spelling and writing his German name in English. The conveyancer wrote it Kriesman, while he himself wrote his name in German, Georg Croessman, and his wife wrote her name in English, Eve Kreosman. Stuart did not live in the city but somewhere in the county, and during the four years that he owned the land several tracts were sold, but it appears the sale was not satisfactory, as other conveyances were afterward granted by Cressman.

The name of Jacob Bayard and Johannes Wilhelm appear on the tax list of 1734, and we will tell what we know about them. We have here a short abstract of an indenture that was made October 7, 1731. Jacob Bayard and wife, Ann Margaret, to Johannes Wilhelm (in English John Williams), weaver, all of the county of Philadelphia, granting a certain tract of land situated between the branches of the Skippack, and described thus: Beginning at a corner of Hans George Roath's land, and by the same north 34 degrees, west 173 perches to a post in the line of George Stuart's land, and by the same north 52 degrees east 47 perches to a post set for a corner by a corner of Jacob Bayard's land, and by the same south 34 degrees east 167 perches to a white oak marked for a corner in a line of Frederick Gottshall's land, and by the same southwest 47 perches to the place of beginning, containing 50 acres of land. This conveyance was signed by George Stuart and Frederick Gottshall as witnesses. Johannes Wilhelm was assessed for 50 acres in 1734.

I have some difficulty in locating this tract even by guessing at it. Frederick Gottshall's place was the Loux farm, but it appears as if it included that part of the Leidy farm between the church and the

Cowpath, but where was Hans George Roath's land? But we will introduce another abstract of a conveyance, granted by George Stuart, of Franconia, and Jane, his wife, to Ludwig Hungen (Hangey) for a certain piece of land situated in Franconia township, and described thus: Beginning at a corner, at a tree in the line of land of Frederick Gottshall, then northwest 187 perches to a corner of land of Hays and Smith, then by land of the said George Stuart north 56 degrees 5 minutes east 92 perches to a corner, then by land of John Cressman south 48 degrees, east 175 perches to a corner, then southwest by the said Gottshall's land 99 perches to the place of beginning, containing 110 acres of land. This conveyance is witnessed by Bernard Rehr and Dirk Keyser. This conveyance covers the farm of Ephraim Freed, but it was found not to be satisfactory, and accordingly there was another conveyance granted to Ludwick Henge by George Cressman and wife, in which the whole history of the tract is given: "And whereas by force and virtue of the above recited indenture of Samuel Marmion, the said Richard Hill in his life became lawfully seized in fee of said 1000 acres of land and of the rents due from the same to him, and being so thereof seized made his last will and testament in writing dated August 28, 1729, and therein devised the rents and profits of the said 1000 acres of land to his nephew, Joseph Hill, his heirs and assigns — and for the better assurance did grant and confirm the said 1000 acres of land to the said Kroesman."

This conveyance from Cressman and wife to Ludwig Henge was made December 29, 1755, and the tract is thus described: Beginning at a corner, at a tree in a line of land now in the tenure of Christian Allebach, extending then by land of Hays and Smith northwest 187 perches to a heap of stones, then by Bastian Benner's land northeast 92 perches to a corner stone, then by John Wilhelm's land southeast 176 perches to a post, then by said Christian Allebach's land southwest 99 perches to the place of beginning, containing 110 acres of land, more or less, with buildings and improvements, for £55 lawful money, with a yearly quitrent of one English shilling for every 100 acres and the proportion thereof.

This gives us to understand who the bordering land holders were in 1755. But we cannot depend on it altogether, for Frederick Gottshall was dead, having died seven years previously, and his will was proven December 8, 1748. Christian Allebach was a son-in-law, who undoubtedly lived on the same farm at that time, and Johannes Wilhelm, now John Williams, owned the farm above, more recently owned by Christian Hunsberger. Hays and Smith did not own any land along the southwest side. But Bastian Benner did own the Umstead farm.

We have some further date of the Hange family. Ludwig Hange died apparently in 1790. His estate was settled August 4, 1791. He had made his will and therein devised his plantation to his son Jacob Hange. There were only three children living, and they were Jacob, Gabriel and Sophia, wife of Captain John Cope. The Ludwig Hangey,

who was born October 26, 1696, and died in 1769, aged 73 years, who is buried in the Fuhrman burial ground*, may have been the father of the aforesaid Ludwig Hange.

We have copied a few facts from William Hange's old Bible, by which it appears that the name of Ludwig Hange's wife was Sophia, the same as her daughter. Their children were Anna Catharine Hange, born in 1733, died in 1739. John Hange, born March 23, 1737. John Jacob Hange, born December 1738; married Barbara Leidy. Sophia Hange, born in 1740; married Captain John Cope. Anna Catharine Hange, born in 1743. Gabriel Hange (no date).

It appears all the more plausible that the aforementioned Ludwig Henge, buried in the Fuhrman graveyard, was the ancestor of the family when we learn that there were also other Hanges in the country. To prove this we copy from Saur's Germantown paper of October 16, 1748: "Johannes Hange an der Indian Krick macht bekannt, das er in Kurtzem nach Teutschland reissen wolle. Sein Weggehet vor erst durchs Siegener Land in das Berleburgische and Wittensteinische, von dannen nach dem Rhein, and eber Mannheim: Wer dieser Gegend — Briefe hin zu bestellen hat, der kan siebeym Drucker hiervon — bey him selbat." — Perkiomen Region, Vol. 1, page 47.

Jacob Hange was an old man already when his father died and he received his farm. Born in 1738, he was 53 years old in 1791 when the estate was settled, but he lived to be 79 years old, and in his will devised his plantation containing 110 acres to his son, Jacob Hange. His estate was settled January 5, 1818. Jacob Hange, Sr., had the following children: George, John, Jacob; Elizabeth, wife of Philip Scholl; Catharine, wife of Jacob Cope, and Barbara, wife of William Weil.

After owning his farm eighteen years Jacob Hange, Jr., and wife Mary sold their farm containing yet 97 acres to George Delp March 6, 1836. It was then bounded by lands of John Delp, Abraham Clemmer, Samuel Sholl, Christian Hunsberger, Frederick Hunsberger, Samuel Leidy, Jacob Leidy, and a public road.

George Delp and wife Catharine sold the same containing 73 acres to Michael Shelly April 3, 1853. Shelly sold the same to Henry Freed, March 31, 1855. Henry Freed died in 1879, and the farm was conveyed to his son, Ephraim Freed, the present owner, in December 1879.

THE SCHLICHTER FARM

The large Cressman tract of 1000 acres was divided in such a way that a line was drawn up about the middle, coming up Chestnut Street, Souderton, and continuing up Water Street to the County Line.

*See "Private Burying Grounds of Franconia Township" by John D. Souder, a chapter in "Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Reed, Proceedings at the Dedication of the Monument," compiled by W. H. REED, M.D., Norristown, 1905, p. 138.

Along this street were springs and a small stream as the head or source of the Skippack*. The east corner of the 1000 acre tract, comprising about 200 acres, from Main or Front street, Souderton, northeast to the County Line, was purchased from George Cressman by Abraham Arndt (date lost). Some time afterward a lot of about 20 acres, now owned by Henry Alderfer, was cut out of the north corner of Arndt's tract for Abraham Gehman. The first residence on the Arndt plantation was at the same place where Nathaniel S. Moyer resides, where there is a lasting spring. On the 7th day of November, 1760, Mr. Arndt and wife conveyed the same large plantation to Henry Schlichter, a shoemaker, of Perkiomen township.

Twenty-five years later Mr. Schlichter died intestate, leaving a widow Elizabeth and five children, named Andrew, Isaac, Esther, wife of John Funk; Susanna, wife of Joseph Oberholtzer, and Elizabeth, wife of Osaac Oberholtzer. On June 1, 1786, these heirs, namely, Isaac Schlichter, of Hatfield, farmer; John Funk, of Bedminster, farmer, and wife Esther; Joseph Oberholtzer and wife Susanna, Isaac Oberholtzer and wife Elizabeth, conveyed their plantation with messuage and improvements, to their brother, Andrew Schlichter, of Rockhill township. He bought it for speculation. The boundaries of the tract are given thus: Beginning at a hickory sapling in a line dividing the counties of Bucks and Montgomery, then by the same southeast 90 perches to a post, then by the land of John Cope southwest 188 perches to a heap of stones, then by land of Christian Hunsberger and Christian Cressman northwest 160 perches to a post, then by land of Abraham Benner northeast 106 perches to a heap of stones, then southeast $2\frac{1}{2}$ perches to a sapling, a corner of Abraham Gehman's land, then by the same southeast 46 perches to a post, then northeast 30 perches to the place of beginning, containing 173 acres and 69 perches. This deed was recorded in Norristown May 19, 1791, in Book No. 6, page 94.

On the August following Andrew Schlichter and wife Elizabeth of Rockhill, conveyed to Abraham Oberholtzer, of Franconia, 130 acres, being part of 17 acres and 69 perches, keeping for himself 48 acres and 69 perches along the County Line. Three years later, April 6, 1791, Abraham Oberholtzer and wife Hannah, of Franconia, sold to Christian Wyerman, of the township of Buckingham, the same plantation of 130 acres. One year later, March 14, 1792, Christian Weirman sold to Christian Hunsberger, Sr., a tract containing 29 acres. This apparently was the farm of John Hunsberger, deceased. About eleven years later, May 3, 1803, Christian Hunsberger and wife Catharine, of Franconia, transferred the same 29 acres tract to their son, Christian Hunsberger, Jr., for £220. The boundaries are given, but I do not have them complete, will give what I have to show adjoining land holders: Beginning at a stone set for a corner, then by Abraham Benner's land northeast 48 perches to a post, then by land of the late Christian Weirman four courses southeast 60 perches to a post in a

*The Souderton High School is located at this point, where the Skippack Creek has its beginning.

line of Jacob Leidy's land, then southwest 36 perches, then southwest 14 perches to a post in a line of the said Christian Hunsberger's land.

On March 14, 1792, Christian Weirman sold and conveyed 50 acres and 155 perches to Christian Souder, who already owned a hundred acre plantation which he had purchased from Christian Cressman. There are so many Christians here that one might suppose they had been very good people. After selling those 50 acres and 155 perches with messuage and improvements, Christian Weirman apparently had yet about 50 acres of land, in what was more recently the Henry Price farm.

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CRESSMAN FARMS

On February 4, 1782, George Cressman sold to his son, Christian Cressman, 100 acres with allowance of 6 per cent, for roads, etc., for £70. It is thus described: Beginning at a post in a line of Abraham Hunsberger's land, then by the same northeast 914 perches to a stone, then by land of Peter Hunsberger, John Benner and Andrew Schlichter southeast 195.5 perches to a stone, then by other land of George Cressman northwest 184.5 perches to the place of beginning, containing 100 acres, it being part of 1000 acres which was granted to the above named George Cressman, February 10, 1734. The southwest distance is accidentally omitted. This land is located on the west side of Main Street, Souderton, from Chestnut Street northwest to the road above going through Reliance.

It is said George Cressman had two sons, George and Christian, and that Mr. Cressman's tract contained 120 acres. George, of the second generation, was twice married; by his first wife he had a son George, in the third generation, born in 1798, and he lived until 1870. By his second wife George Cressman had a son and two daughters. George Cressman, of the third generation, had eleven children, six sons and five daughters. Their farm was sold to Joseph Stover in 1871. He sold off part of the land and removed the residence on the upper side of the road, where it is nicely located. In the first place this tract extended along the road above till on the west side of the Cowpath, where there used to be a dwelling place on a lot, and the barn is still there, but the lot now belongs to the Umstead farm.

Going back again to Christian Cressman we find that on June 4, 1791, he and his wife Elizabeth sold and conveyed their land to Christian Souder for £500. On August 13 of the same year Christian Souder and wife Mary sold three acres of the same to Christian Hunsberger.

As already stated Christian Weirman granted 50 acres and 155 perches to Christian Souder March 14, 1792, making 150 acres of land for Christian Souder. So many Christians as there were here one would think they must have had a good deal of Christianity. But Christian Souder had bought those two adjacent tracts of land for speculation and by the year 1821 he had sold about 100 acres of it.

He then made his will, dated October 24, 1821, and therein devised the remaining plantation containing about 48 acres to his son, Christian Souder, Jr., which, after his death was conveyed to his son as co-executor by his brother, Henry Souder, the other executor, May 3, 1824. His children were Christian, Jr., Henry, Catharine, wife of Christian Hunsberger; Magdalene, wife of Abraham Yeakel; Elizabeth, Barbara, and the children of Abraham Souder, deceased.

The two remnants of the tracts of land already noted were afterward surveyed and found to contain yet 44 acres and 85 perches. The one tract containing 32 acres and 137 perches was at that time bounded by lands of Henry Benner, Harry Miller, George Cressman, Christian Hunsberger, Christian Benner and Abraham Benner. The other lot, containing yet 11 acres and 108 perches, was bounded by lands of Henry Boors, George Henge, George Bilger and Samuel Gerhart.

Christian Souder, Jr., lived at one of those old places in the valley, probably where Nathaniel S. Moyer lives, for 38 years. But before his death he made his last will and testament and therein appointed his two sons, Henry Souder, and Samuel Souder, his executors, who sold the messuage and 31 acres and 62 perches of land to Levi Nace April 13, 1863. Two years later, July 21, 1865, Mr. Nace and wife conveyed the same to Isaac W. Gehman. The latter lived here about 17 years and then died intestate, when letters of administration on his estate were granted to his brother, Samuel W. Gehman, who sold the same property to Enos W. Gehman June 20, 1883. Five years later Mr. Gehman and wife conveyed the messuage and 26 acres and 63 perches to Jonas H. Moyer April 11, 1888. It appears as if this property afterwards fell into the hands of William D. Hunsberger, Samuel D. Hunsberger and Isaac S. Borneman, administrators of the estate, and sold the property to Israel Ruth, April 13, 1893, and on the next day, April 14, 1893, Ruth and wife transferred the same to Nathaniel Moyer, the present owner.

THE BENNER FARM

It appears that all that tract of land from Water street northwest to the Midway road and from the Church road, now Main street, Souderton, northeast to the County Line, comprising a tract of 225 acres, was purchased by John Benner, from George Cressman in 1755. It is said that John Benner, Christian Benner, Bastian Benner, and a sister who married a Miller, came from Germany. The name originally was Behner. In 1784 John Benner was dead and the heirs sold the plantation to his son, Abraham Benner, for £600. It was then bounded by lands of Henry Hertzell, Abraham Gehman, Henry Schlichter, George Cressman, Abraham Hunsberger and the Bucks County line. The first house was down near the foot of the hill probably where Henry B. Moyer lives. At the same time, in 1784, a tract of 80 acres along the Church road was sold to Peter Hunsberger. He built the first house on the farm of William Henge. When the railroad was built it cut the land in two, and the land between the railroad and Main street is

part of the farm. In 1822 Abraham Benner's farm was transferred to Christian Benner for \$2318. At that time the farm contained only 81 acres yet. It is claimed that Joseph Benner, a son of Abraham, built the premises where John Rubrecht lives.

Abraham Benner died about 1822. After his death they divided the large farm, Christian Benner and brother Abraham taking the rest of the farm, and divided it about 1825. Abraham afterward lived in Hatfield. He is buried at Rockhill; Joseph and family are buried at Plain.

We will now copy what John D. Souder published of this place about 15 years ago. Speaking of Souderton, he says: "The first settlers who emigrated to this section of the country were Welshmen. The first building by them was on the premises of Ephraim Freed. Where the greater part of the town is now located, a few hundred yards east of the railroad depot, there stood an old fashioned log house and a Swiss Barn, then owned and occupied by Jonathan Hunsberger, who also owned all the ground where now the depot of the North Pennsylvania Railroad is located and where most of the business is transacted. Thence along Church road, a few hundred yards northwest of the depot, on the right hand of the road, was the residence of Henry Souder, Sr., and on the left his carpenter shop and lumber yard. Still further up, on the northwest side of the Skippack Creek, stood an old log cabin, formerly owned by George Henge, deceased; about one-third of a mile northwest of the railroad depot was the residence of Michael Henge, lately deceased, now owned by William Henge.

"Fifty years ago (1850) what is now the principal street of Souderton was a narrow lane, having a low washed out bed with high sloping banks, on one side of which was a forest and on the other lay barren fields. This road originally extended to the Cowpath road, near the Indian Creek church, the upper part of which was abandoned since 1865. What is now known as Water street was its only branch.

"There were only a few houses in the surrounding country, traces of which still remain. The oldest house in Souderton was built in 1837 by Henry Souder, Sr., at the corner of Water street and what is now known as Main street. This property is now owned by the railroad company, and was bought to avoid bringing Water street at this point.

"About 1843 Henry Souder, Sr., established a lumber yard at this place. The lumber was hauled from Point Pleasant, on the Delaware River, a distance of eighteen miles."

THE BERGEY FARMS

The farms of Samuel Bergey, Henry Bergey and Joseph Bergey have been in the Bergey family 140 years, or since 1760. These farms, formerly in one tract, were nicely located in the Indian Creek valley, with a good soil and sufficient drainage. The farm dates back to 1723, when John Michael Hentz purchased from John Budd and Humphrey

Murrey 110 acres and owned the place 23 years. He lived here in 1734, and Johannes Hentz and Michael Hentz each are rated with 100 acres. But on December 1, 1746, John Michael Hentz and wife Mary conveyed their farm to Christian Souder, who owned the place 14 years, and on June 20, 1760, he and his wife Margaret sold the same to Isaac Bergey, of Franconia, for 230 pounds, and the boundaries are thus given: Beginning at a black oak tree, a corner of Jacob Fuhrman's land and extending thence by the same northwest 244 perches and a quarter to a post, being another corner of said Fuhrman's land, then southwest 72 perches to a corner, then southeast 244 perches and a quarter to another post, a corner, then northeast 72 perches to the place of beginning, containing 110 acres. Being part of 1000 acres which were laid out for John Budd and Humphrey Murrey.

Isaac Bergey was born about 1734 and died March 8, 1806 or 1808. He was married to Widow Susanna Hunsberger and had 13 children, as follows: Jacob, John, Isaac, Abraham, Mary, wife of Isaac Gerhart; Magdalena, wife of Isaac Swartz; Christin, Henry, Elizabeth, Sarah, Joseph, Samuel and Michael.

Rev. John Bergey made his will on December 20, 1838, and was proven October 7, 1841. The witnesses were Abraham Woodward, Martin Heckler. He had four plantations — Samuel's farm, Henry's farm, Jacob's farm, and John's farm, where George Swartley lives, also Joseph Bergey.

The children of Rev. Bergey were Henry H., Samuel, Joseph, Elizabeth, wife of Rev. John S. Allebach, Jacob, Anna, Susanna.

Where Albert Gerhart lives was formerly Frederick Scholl's farm, then Henry Sholl, then William Sholl, then Henry Wambole, then Albert Gerhart. The George Swartley farm was also a Bergey farm.

Henry Bergey lived on the John Fry farm, which he bought in 112, and contained 70 acres and 40 perches. His oldest son was Isaac Bergey, called after his grandfather.

There is a John Burge mentioned in the forepart of the Funk controversy. Whether he was a minister or deacon does not say, but he evidently was a brother to Isaac Burge and lived in Upper Salford.

THE TRUMBORE FARM

The name Trumbore is also written Drumbore and Trumpo, which is not correct. Andrew Trumbore purchased from John Budd and Humphrey Murrey, 205 acres of land for £55 and 7s on March 27, 1728. This land is included in the farms of William Souder, the farm of the late John Bergey and farms and lots extending in line back to the Branch Creek. The boundaries are thus given:

Beginning at a post in a line of Jacob Tutweiler's land, then by the same northeast 42 perches to a post, then northwest 177 perches

to a post, then northeast 42 perches to a post in the County Line, then by the same northwest 164 perches to a post, then southwest 124 perches to a post, a corner of George German's land, then southeast by the same 293 perches to a post in a line of said Tutweiler's land, then by the same northeast 40 perches to a corner, then southeast 40 perches to the place of beginning; containing 205 acres.

After living here 26 years, Andrew Trumbore sold his large plantation to his second son, Andrew Trumbore, Jr., and gave a conveyance, dated June 6, 1754, still subject to a quit rent of one English shilling for each hundred acres. Andrew Trumbore was subject to taxation in 1734.

In 1737, when Gabriel Shuler had built his grist and oil mill on the Perkiomen, in Upper Salford, he brought out a petition for a public road leading to Philadelphia, and, among others, went over to the Indian-field for signers to his petition, where he obtained the names of Andrew Drombohr, Ludwig Zirkel, Henry Zirkel, Michael Burge, Paul Leide.

Again 36 years more rolled away and Andrew Drumbore became an old man, made his will and died. His farm was still the same, excepting that in the west corner, up at the Branch, he ordered in his will that five acres should be cut out for Sophia Drollinger, who was presumably his daughter. In his will he appointed his two sons, John and George Wrumbore, executors. They sold the farm of 200 acres to Henry Kassel, May 27, 1790. One year later, May 27, 1791, Mr. Kassel and wife conveyed the same property to John Berkey. The boundaries of the tract are the same as they were in 1754, when old Andrew Trumbore conveyed the farm to his son, Andrew, but as the names of the adjacent land owners have changed we will give the boundaries, going around the other way:

Beginning at a stone, a corner of Abraham Gerhart's land, thence extending by Christian Benner's land northwest 48 perches to a stone, then by the same southwest 40 perches, then by land of Jacob Souder northwest 264.7 perches to a stone, a corner of land devised to Sophia Drollinger, then by the same northeast 28.3 perches to a stone, then northwest 28 3 perches to a stone, then by land of Henry Bernard and others northeast 97.7 perches to a stone, a corner in a line dividing the counties of Bucks and Montgomery, then by the same and land of Abraham Gehman southeast 164 perches to a stone, then southwest 42 perches, then by land of Abraham Gehman, Christian Illich, Samuel Brodt and Abraham Gerhart southeast 177 perches to a stone, then by land of Abraham Gerhart southwest 42 perches to the place of beginning, containing 200 acres, being the greater part of 205 acres.

By a draft of the Souder tract in 1813 it shows that John Bergey owned part of the Trumbore farm, and Isaac Bergey, presumably his brother, owned 40 acres that were cut out of the Souder farm and a tract cut out of the Trumbore farm, while at the west corner of the Trumbore or Bergey tract was also a tract belonging to Peter Drullinger.

By a deed made July 18, 1795, Christian Benner and wife Mary

conveyed to John Bergey 8 acres. This apparently was meadow land along the Indian Creek, which is but a small stream along there. On December 20, 1838, John Bergey and wife Catharine sold to their son Jacob 26 acres and 13 perches. This appears to be the small farm recently of John Bergey, deceased.

By a draft, it appears that the farm of William Souder still contains 100 acres and 159 perches. This was the Jacob Bergey farm, above Telford.

MARTIN KINDIG

The ancestor of the Kindig family, in company with 70 families of Palatinates of about 300 people, arrived in Philadelphia on the ship Molly, John Hodgson master, from Rotterdam, on September 30, 1727. This was Martin Kindig. He made his last will and testament in writing, dated December 9, 1762, which was proven August 10, 1763. The witnesses to this will were Christian Funk and Jacob Overholtzer. He provided for his wife Magdalene that in lieu on her third part she was to have all his real and personal estate. This cannot mean what it says, for if it does it all belonged to her and no further provision was necessary. But he provided and ordered that at first she was to have "£50 in cash and things in the house, and to have her habitation on the place whereon I now dwell." She was "also to have one cow and the pasture and fodder to be fed by my said son or by his assigns as his or one of his cows." She was "to have her fire wood, which was to be cut ready for the stove. Part of the garden, apples of six trees, six bushels of rye, six bushels of wheat, four bushels of buckwheat, one quarter acre of turnips, one quarter acre of land to raise Indian corn thereon; a hog of about one hundred pounds weight; fifteen pounds of good hatched flax; fifteen pounds of good tow; three pounds of good wool and five pounds in money; all that shall be by my son Martin, and all to be given her annually by my son Martin as long as she remains a widow."

His plantation, containing 90 acres and 36 perches, was to go to his son Martin, who was to take it at the appraisement of four impartial men. Martin was to "have £100 in money for himself in lieu of wages for labor over age; also Martin was to have that young mare, saddle and bridle on which he used to ride." Then Martin was to pay £25 in money annally to the executors, who were his son John, and son-in-law, William Myers, as partial payment without interest on the farm until all was paid. There were four children — Martin, John, Barbara's children and Magdalene, wife of William Myers. The estate was to be divided in four equal shares.

Later surveys show that the farm contained not 90 acres but 100, and Martin Kindig, Jr., who was a weaver by trade, owned this farm until May 3, 1791, when he sold the place to his son-in-law, Jacob Godshall. It appears that he was a widower at that time, because there was no wife to sign the deed, but he afterward married Susanna

Strohm, who outlived him a long time. She died September 2, 1823, aged 70 years.

Rev. Jacob Godshall was born in Bucks county and is from the New Britain and Doylestown family of Godshalls. His father, John Godshall, was born July 22, 1737, and died July 15, 1814. He married Christiana Hendricks. This fact and the fact that they were Mennonites, looks as if they might have been from Towamencin. She was born in October 1741, and died in 1801.

Rev. Jacob Godshall was born in New Britain December 28, 1769, and married Barbara Kindig, of Franconia, September 15, 1795. She was born April 1, 1775. They lived together in matrimony until December 30, 1843, when she died. Before he was married he was a schoolmaster and taught school in the Mennonite districts of Montgomery county, and even after he was married, living on a farm near the Ridge road, in Upper Salford, several years before he bought the farm of his father-in-law. He and his wife lived together 48 years and had 11 children, seven sons and four daughters, who were born in the following order: John, Martin, Jacob, William, Susanna, Christiana, Catharine, Samuel, Barbara, Henry, Herman. Barbara, widow of Henry Bergey, and Herman are living yet at an advanced age. Herman, like his father, was an old time schoolteacher, and a leader in singing in the Mennonite church. William and Samuel were never married. They built the mill on the Branch Creek, west of Morwood.

Rev. Godshall was called to the ministry in his 32nd year and served as a minister 41 years and as bishop 32.

After his death his son, Henry K., owned the Kindig farm for many years, and after him his son William owned the farm, and then Jacob Godshall, who sold what remained, about 50 acres, to Horace Godshall, and he to the present owner, Jacob Musselman.

THE BARNDT FAMILY

In the tax list of 1734 Andrew Barndt was assessed for 75 acres of land, and Henry Barndt for 100 acres, both in Franconia township. We had always been under the impression that the Branch Creek (otherwise in the Northeast Branch of the Perkiomen) is the line between Franconia and Upper Salford townships, but recent investigations prove that though it is now considered to be the line it was not originally so, and Andrew Barndt and son Henry, who then lived on the northwest side of the Branch Creek where Henry H. Hartzell now resides, in Salford township, then lived in Franconia, at the same place.

The residence was in Franconia, but the greater part of the land of Andrew Barndt was in Salford, while the land belonging to his son Henry was wholly in Salford. The line as given in the **History of Montgomery County** by Col. Theodore Bean is not correct: "Commencing at the north corner of Salford in the line dividing the counties

of Philadelphia and Bucks thence southeast by said line 1300 perches to Franconia township southeast 184 perches." Anyone who knows the points of the compass ought to know that if this last course is correct there must have been first a course southwest before there could be a southeast course, or else the last course was southwest and is therefore incorrectly given. By common consent the Branch Creek has been the dividing line between the two townships for many years.

The name Barndt was variously written in old manuscripts and much tinkering has been done at the name, as we find it written Bernhardt, Bernard, Berndt, and Barndt. The Barndt family is large, and all of that name in this district are the descendants of Andrew Barndt or Bernhardt, who lived, as already stated, on the northwest side of the Branch Creek, in Salford township. There is, however, another Barndt family in Upper Hanover township, who are the descendants of Philip Barndt.

The date of Andrew Bernhardt's arrival in Pennsylvania is not known. His son, Hans Heinrich Bernhardt, came to Pennsylvania in the ship Molly and arrived in Philadelphia on September 30, 1727, when he apparently was only 14 years of age. It appears probable that his father, Andrew Barndt, came with his whole family at the same time. In Rupp's 30,000 names, where we find Hans Heinrich Barndt as mentioned above, we have Andrew Borns as the only Andrew on that ship, and it appears probable that the name Borns is wrong. In looking over the old manuscripts, English and German, we did not discover in what year Andrew Barndt or Bernhardt built his first log cabin on the northwest side of the Branch Creek, but it is certain that he was there before 1734 and that at that date he owned 75 acres of land. He afterward purchased yet more small tracts of 22, 24 and 12 acres from James and William Bingham, executors of the estate of James Bingham, Sr., of Philadelphia, which all joined his other land at that time in Franconia Township. The following from the land office, Philadelphia, is taken from Dotterer's **Perkiomen Region**, volume 3, page 64:

"June 2, 1741. Rec'd of Andreas Bernard for — a in Franconia L18 10 0."

Andrew Barndt died about the year 1761 or '62, and left a widow and three children. The widow afterward married John Apple, of Upper Sakum (Saucon) township, Northampton county. The children were John Henry Barndt; Catharine, wife of Henry Waldt, of Upper Salford; and Sabina, wife of Henry Buchaker, of Upper Sakum township.

A warrant was granted to Henry Bernhardt for 150 acres of land in Salford on February 26, 1734, and Jacob Taylor was sent to survey it. In 1738, another warrant was granted to Mr. Bernhardt for another tract containing 152½ acres adjacent to his other land, and in 1755 he received the patent for those 302½ acres in Upper Salford. He was the only son and after the death of his father, when the estate was

settled on May 19, 1763, the whole plantation, containing 133 acres, was released to him, which made him the owner of 435 acres. This must have included nearly the whole valley from the County Line down to the west side of the Allentown Road. At their settlement in 1763 he paid to each of his two sisters 97 pounds in money, and to his mother, then the wife of John Apple, 200 pounds in consideration for her dower.

He appears to have been ambitious, perservering and intent upon being a large landholder. Commencing at the county line of Bucks, the line of his land ran southwest at some places near the foot of the ridge, and at other places partly up the hill till on the west side of the Allentown Road, south of Tylersport. The land is nicely located in the Branch Valley and is of good quality.

He made his will February 22, 1771, and died only three days later. On his tombstone his age is not given, but only the date of his death, February 25, 1771. He had some peculiar ideas which crop out of his will, wherein he ordered that his land should never be sold out of his family, but is to be kept by his descendants forever. Brother is to sell to brother, sister to sister, parents to children from generation to generation among his descendants forever. If the male descendants should all die out the female descendants are to buy and sell the land to each other and give "good and lawful deeds" for the same on his authority. But no good deed was to be given to a stranger. Thus far his descendants have not strictly observed this part of his will.

THE GERHART FAMILY

In 1739, Abraham, Barbara and Peter Gerhart immigrated from Alsac, Kingdom of France, to America. (The parents name was Paul.) Barbara died single. Abraham settled in Berks county — it is supposed in Long Swamp township. He had a large family of whom very little is known, but nearly all the Gerhards and Gerharts of Lehigh, Berks and Lebanon counties are descendants of Abraham. The great ancestor of the family, Peter, settled in Franconia township, on the Allentown road, 1½ miles below Tylersport. Irwin R. Hartzel now lives on the homestead. It was known for more than a century as Gerhart's tavern. Peter Gerhart was one of the founders of Christ Reformed church at Indian Creek before the year 1746 (exact date is not known). He had a family of eleven children — six sons and five daughters. He died December 30, 1776, and is buried at Indian Creek. The names of the children are Abraham, Conrad, John, Jacob, Peter, Isaac, Mrs. Michael Scholl, Mrs. John Jacob George Dietz, Mrs. Jacob Fillman, Mrs. Henry Barndt and Mrs. Magdalena, wife of Jacob Schneider, of Falconer Swamp. Rev. Benjamin Scheider, D. D., first foreign missionary of the Reformed Church, was one of their sons. He labored at Ointap, Syria, for many years among the Turks and established a seminary and school among the Mohammedans.

Conrad settled in Chester county. All I know of the family is that one of their sons, Dr. Gerhart, was a professor in the University of Pennsylvania for many years. Abraham, my grandfather, married Anna Barbara Detterra. They lived about a mile below Sellersville, on a farm now occupied by Jonas S. Shive. They had a family of seven children — four sons and three daughters: Abraham, Jacob, John and Isaac, Mrs. Philip Hartzel, Mrs. John Kern and Catharine, who died in childhood. Isaac studied for the ministry under Rev. Samuel Helffenstein, D. D., and became one of the pioneer ministers of the Reformed Church in the Susquehanna Valley.

Rev. E. V. Gerhart, D. D., L. L. D., present Professor in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., is his oldest son. John, my father, married Magdalena Stout, moved on the homestead now owned by Jacob S. Leidy and part of West Telford in 1810. They had a family of seven children — five sons and two daughters: Mrs. Abraham Henggey, Hilary, married to Hannah Barndt; Jonas died at the age of 14 years, Catharine died single, Abraham married to Elizabeth Gerhart, Zeno married to Sarah Horning and Isaac, the writer of the above, married Elizabeth Swartzlander. Our family consisted of six children — three sons and three daughters: Isaac, Newton, Sallie and Elizabeth died in infancy; J. Howard married Martha Savacool, A. Paul married Jennie Appel, Marietta married William H. Godshall, of Lansdale, and Lizzie B., is yet single. Abraham Gerhart was appointed Justice of the Peace for the district comprising Lower Salford, Towamencin and Franconia townships by Governor Snyder, March 29, 1813. The commission is in the library of Abraham H. Cassel*. (See **Perkiomen Region**, Vol. 1, page 68.)

ISAAC G. GERHART,

Telford Bucks Co., Pa., Dec. 22, 1900.

LEONARD CRISTLER

The name Christler is also written Kristler and Crisler. The name of Leonard Crisler appears in the tax list of 1734, rated on 200 acres of land. The residence of the late William Weirman, and later of Jacob Nace, was the residence of Leonard Cristler. This farm has gone through many hands and for a while matters concerning the farm were very much complicated, as will be shown further on. The farm is of an irregular shape and includes 50 acres in the Hackman and Yoder farms, the Weirman farm, the farm of Henry Krupp and the lot occupied by Henry Detweiler. The conveyances show that Leonard Cristler purchased 196 acres of land from Budd and Murrey May 2, 1723, and this was the end of the 1000-acre tract. Beginning in the middle of the present public road at the north corner of Benjamin Krupp's land, which was then a corner of Samuel Marmion's land. From this corner northwest the line has been obliterated, but the

*The famous 19th century bibliophile, born in 1820, died in 1908. He lived along the Indian Creek near Vernfield. See "PENNSYLVANIA FOLKLIFE," 1960 Spring issue.

distance up along Pastorius' land, afterward Uli Hunsberger's, is given as 252 perches to a corner of William Neus' land (up at the turnpike). That part of the land extending up 142 perches along Fuhrman's land was therefore 96 perches wide up along the turnpike, and the other line northeast from William Freed's out near the Cowpath 72 perches. This must have been the size and shape of the Cristler farm and gave a conveyance bearing date April 8, 1736. Four years later Cristler made his last will and testament dated December 8, 1740, and thereby devised his whole plantation to his son, Leonard Cristler, Jr., reserving the rights of his widow. She did not remain a widow, but married William Lohr, or Lower, an innholder of Philadelphia.

After the death of Leonard Cristler, Sr., Leonard Cristler, Jr., and wife sold to Bastian Benner 46 acres of those 50 which his father had purchased from Jacob Hunsberger, and gave a conveyance on March 26, 1747. If I understand it right he sold the other four acres to Frederick Zoehner, of Franconia, who was a potter by trade, March 25, 1747, and he owned the same until September 11, 1774, when he and his wife Barbara sold the same lot to Isaac Benner. Leonard Cristler, Sr., had two sons — Leonard, Jr., and John Dewald Cristler, of Culpeper county, Virginia, who was a planter in said State.

About the year 1747, or soon after, Leonard Cristler, Jr., died intestate, and his wife Anna Maria took out letters of administration to settle up the estate, and she also claimed her right to a dower in the land. But it was found that no clear title to the farm could be given by the administratrix on account of this brother, John Dewald Cristler, in Virginia, who was a lawful heir. He was of course informed of the situation and appeared upon the scene, when he and his wife Rosina sold the plantation to his mother's husband, William Lohr, and gave a conveyance dated November 16, 1749. After three years this Philadelphia innkeeper and wife Elizabeth Margaret, "late widow and devisee named in the will of Leonard Cristler, late of Franconia township, deceased," sold the plantation to Jost Pannekuck, innholder, of Franconia township, September 29, 1752. This deed was acknowledged before Edward Shippen of Philadelphia, and the witnesses were John Benson, Paul Isaac Voto and Jack Barn.

THE FREED FARM, FRANCONIA SQUARE

Among other pioneer settlers who came into the district, were two Germans, apparently Mennonites, whose names were Yost Shenler and Yost Pankuck; he is also called Jost Pancake. These two, probably single men at the time, purchased, in partnership, 130 acres of Henry Pastorius and wife Sarah, of Germantown, and received their title, dated August 18, 1727. And it came to pass that Yost Shenler died before any partition or division of the land had been made, and so all the said land and premised descended to the said Yost Pankuck and to his heirs. His name also appears among the list of taxables of 1734, when he was rated on 100 acres. He married Agnes Godshall, daughter of Frederick Godshall, who lived on the Loux farm, at the

Skippack, on the Cowpath. He built his loghouse long before there was any public road there, and fortunately built it at the right place to accommodate travelers after the road was open, when he was called an innkeeper. His house was on the northwest side of the present residence of Reuben S. Alderfer, at Franconia Square. He lived here 33 years, and on May 24, 1760, Mr. Pankuck and wife Agnes conveyed the same plantation still containing 130 acres with all the improvements to John Brubacher, of Manor, Lancaster county. But after three years Mr. Brubacher and wife Elizabeth conveyed the same property to Jacob Groff, of Franconia, for £600, April 2, 1763. Six years later, May 27, 1769, Mr. Groff and wife Frances sold the same to John Freed, who lived there 20 years and raised a family of six children, and died there, intestate. The children were John Freed, Jr., Catharine, wife of Abraham Souder, Susanna, wife of Jacob Berkey, and Jacob Freed. These heirs conveyed the same plantation and premises to their eldest brother, John Freed, December 4, 1790. The next summer, on August 13, 1791, John Freed and wife Mary for the consideration of £275, conveyed 40 acres to his brother Jacob Freed. This was the late Mack farm. It was then bounded by lands of Jacob Landes, John Freed, Christian Moyer, the meetinghouse lands and lands of Henry Rosenberger. The witnesses to the deed were Bastian Benner and Heinrich Sauter before Christian Weber.

By a draft made by Henry Schweitzer, surveyor of Skippack, in November 1789, it shows that the land all lay on the southwest side of the Allentown road and extended up on the ridge on the southeast side of the turnpike, though there was no public road across there then. The late John Oberholtzer farm was probably part of the said land. After cutting off those 40 acres for his brother Jacob Freed, John Freed still had 96 acres in the homestead. Mr. Freed lived there and owned the said farm 40 years, and in the meantime had reduced it to 61 acres. It is said that he sold 35 acres off his land to Jacob Hagey, who built that house and barn up the road, now owned by Henry Clemmer. John Freed died intestate and letters of administration were granted on his estate to his son-in-law, George Gerhart, and son, John Freed, Jr., in 1830. And at an Orphans' Court held in Norristown November 3, of said year, the heirs presented their petition for the sale of the farm which was sold to Henry Kolb, father of the late Henry Kolb. deceased, and a deed was granted by the administrators, dated April 5, 1832.

The children and heirs were John Freed, Jr., Isaac Keyser and wife, Hannah Freed, George Gerhart and wife, Susanna Freed, Elizabeth, widow of John Harley; Mary, widow of Jacob Bean; Benjamin Cole and wife, Catharine Freed, William Godshalk and wife, Anna Freed. Lydia and Sarah Freed, both under age, were represented by guardians. Lydia, at that date, was 21 years of age, and became the wife of Daniel Alderfer. Sarah is a mistaken name for Sophia, who became the wife of Aaron Weirman.

We will now turn back to Jacob Freed, who owned his farm of 40 acres fifteen years when he and his wife Anna conveyed the same

to their son, Joseph Freed, April 1, 1806. The witnesses to this deed were Michael Shoemaker and George Hartzell. After 25 years Joseph Freed and wife Elizabeth sold the same to their son Isaac Freed, April 8, 1831; he died there about the year 1880. The heirs then sold the farm to the late John Mack, who died there in 1895. The said John Mack was a very useful man at that place. He was the sexton of the meetinghouse and the first at that place who kept a record of the cemetery.

THE ZIRKELL FARM

The farm of Jonas Godshall, on the west side of the Cowpath and opposite the Indian Creek Reformed Church, was also purchased from Budd and Murrey, it appears, by Philip Trout, but as the several



Indian Creek Reformed Church

first conveyances are lost or destroyed we cannot give dates, but after Trout it was owned by three generations of the Zirkell family.

Henry Zirkell, who owned the farm just opposite on the east side of the Cowpath and east side of the Indian Creek in 1734 (now owned by Enos Haldeman), soon afterward became the owner of this farm. Just how long he lived here is not known, but after him it was the home of his son, Johannes Zirkell, and afterward of his grandson, William Zirkell.

It would appear that Henry Zirkell must have been a man in middle age or more when he came to Franconia, having a second wife, as appears by the tenor of his will, which is dated March 8, 1745. But as no executor was named in the will letters of administration were granted to Catharine Zirkell (widow of Henry Zirkell, deceased), and Peter Sneider, on the estate of the said decedant, March 10, 1747. By his first wife Henry had two children, a son and daughter, Ludwick and Anna Mary.

To his son Ludwick he bequeathed £40 in Pennsylvania currency, and to Anna Mary, married to Jacob Faut, £30 in coin. Ludwick Zirkell owned a farm at the Lutheran church nearby on which he was rated for 100 acres in 1734. Johannes Zirkell was a son of the second wife and to him was devised the plantation where they lived, containing 150 acres, as appears by the following:

"Secondly, I will and I give and devise unto my son Johannes Zirkell (by my second and present wife) and to his son and my grandson forever all my land and plantation with all and everything that is mine from the least to the greatest of what name soever, he paying out of the same unto my aforementioned children the said legacies. My said successor Johannes Zirkell shall after my decease provide for my present wife Magdalene and behave towards her as a dutiful child ought to do to his mother according to **Deut. 5:16**, and maintain her at his table as good as he has and can have. But if his said mother could not agree and live with him so (as is many times the case between parent and child) and she should be despised, then she shall have and keep the direction and management of my estate herself, neither be freed to leave or move out of my house.

If the wife should desire to live alone then Johannes shall give her yearly out of the plantation for her use six bushels of good clean rye and six bushels of good clean wheat, and one hogshead of four barrels of good cyder and 70 pounds of good dried fruit and 15 pounds of good clean hatched flax.

"If the heirs constituted in the second article, Johannes Zirkell should (though it is not hoped) die without issue, then my said sons Johannes wife Catharine shall for such time as she lives here after her time of servitude have £5 yearly. Lastly, I leave after my decease unto my said dearly beloved wife Magdalene all the prerogative and discretionary power of management of all my estate under the

direction of Michael Burge of Franconia township in the county of Philadelphia and George Hartzell of Rockhill in the county of Bucks as my Inspectors by me named until my said successor Johannes Zirkell aforementioned shall arrive at his maturity with the intent that the said Inspectors shall endeavor to prevent all contention concerning my said estate and the squandering of the same and to keep the peace in the fear of God amongst my said family.

"If any heirs should try to overthrow the will they shall forfeit their share except one English shilling. Done in Franconia township. Signed Henry Zirkell. Witnesses, John William Straube, Dietrick Liady, Michael Burge, George Henry Hartzell. Translated from the High Dutch by Christian Lehman. Proved before Jacob Reiff, of Salford, March 3, 1747." We are indebted to the kindness of Henry S. Dotterer, of Philadelphia, for an abstract of the foregoing will and administration.

One thing in the foregoing will is not clear, as Magdalena is represented as the wife and mother, whereas letters of administration were granted to Catharine Zirkell as the widow, whereas Catharine appears to have been the wife of Johannes Zirkell, even if he was under age yet. Turning back to the plantation we find that Johannes or John Zirkell lived there all his lifetime, but did not get old, and 23 years after the foregoing will was made the grandson, William Zirkell, was on age and married as appears, or he and his mother, Catharine Zirkell, may together have sold the farm. In their conveyance to Mrs. Elizabeth Gerhart, of Franconia, widow of Peter Gerhart, dated July 26, 1768, Catharine Zirkell is represented as William's wife, and in the said conveyance appears the following:

"And whereas the said Johannes Zirkell, the father of the said William has paid all and every legacy ordered in the testator's will and departing this life left no debts, the estate in the premises by survivorship became vested in the grandson, William Zirkell, and his heirs and assigns."

As already stated, William Zirkell and wife or mother Catharine sold their plantation, containing a messuage and 150 acres of land, to Mrs. Elizabeth Gerhart, widow of Peter Gerhart, for £608, July 29, 1768. This she purchased for her son, Jacob Gerhart, and six years later, May 27, 1774, transferred the same to him. He then owned the place 26 years, when he and his wife Elizabeth conveyed the same property to their son, Jacob Gerhart, Jr., for £1500, May 3, 1800. He owned the place 48 years, until he was well advanced in age, when he and his wife Elizabeth sold the messuage and 90 acres and 9 perches to their son, Joseph Gerhart, April 15, 1848. Joseph then owned the place 26 years until April 9, 1874, when they sold the same to Jonas Godshalk, the present owner. Mr. Godshalk is descended from the Godshalks of Towamencin, whose Dutch ancestor wrote his name Gaetschalck Gaetschalck.

JOHN NICE

Among others who purchased from Budd and Murrey was a German by the name of Henry Zirkel, who purchased 50 acres on the east side of the Indian Creek, across from the Reformed church, lately the farm of Samuel Kulp, and now of Enos Haldeman. I inadvertently omitted the date of the purchase from Budd and Murrey, but here he lived in 1734, when he was assessed for 50 acres of land. Not long afterward he sold his farm to Henry Bruehler, another German, and purchased the farm on the other side of the Cowpath from Philip Trout. There was no Cowpath there at that time, but it was not long until George Moyer, the miller on the Branch Creek, had a road laid out from his mill down through Hatfield to the Bethlehem Road.

Henry Bruehler and wife both died, leaving two children — a son, Samuel Bruehler, and wife Barbara, who still resided on the farm, and a daughter, Mary Berg, who was a widow, residing in Philadelphia. These two children, sole heirs of the estate, sold the farm to John Nyce, of Hanover township, and gave a conveyance bearing date November 24, 1750. The boundaries of the farm are thus given:

"Beginning at a corner of Jacob Garman's land in a line of Philip Trout's land, then northeast by the said Garman's land 20 perches to another corner of the said Garman's land, then southeast by the said Garman's land 61 perches to a post, then southeast by Budd and Murrey's land 113 perches to a post, then southwest by Budd and Murrey's land to a white oak sapling, a corner of Philip Trout's land, then northwest by the same land, then northwest by the same 174 perches to the place of beginning, containing 50 acres."

John or Johannes Cressman purchased a tract of 140 acres, apparently from Budd and Murrey, before 1734, for which he was assessed that year. But about the year 1750 they had retired to Rockhill township, when he and his wife Sophia sold their plantation to Hans Bernard Kunser on April 27, 1750. From this Mr. Kunser, John Nyce purchased yet 25 acres July 2, 1755, making his farm 75 acres. It is thus described:

"Beginning at a corner of Peter Gerhart's land, then northwest 44 perches by the said Gerhart's land to a post, then by land of Hans Bernard Kunser, northeast 91 perches, then by Andrew Berndt's land southeast 44 perches to a marked tree standing in a line of Peter Lutz's land and the land of John Fuhrman southwest 91 perches to the place of beginning, containing 25 acres."

This land appears to have been disconnected from the other land, and appears to have been up near the Branch, north of Earlington.

John Nice, or John DeNyce, did not live long on his farm on the Indian Creek for he died in March, 1758. He was married to Catharine, daughter of Philip Rahn, of New Hanover township. Before he died

he made a will, in which he said: "And if it is God's will that I shall leave my wife and children, then it is my will that my place or plantation shall be sold. My wife Catharine and her father Philip Hahn shall act according to my will."

John Nice died and is buried at the Reformed church at the Indian Creek in 1754, and was one of the trustees of the church. His name is carved in the corner stone of the present edifice. His name is there, and though he is dead he yet speaketh. He left four children — Elizabeth, Philip, John and Abraham. All the Nices belonging to the Mennonite and Dunkard churches are the descendants of the youngest son, Abraham Nice, the miller, as already shown in the sketch of the Landis family.

In a few short years after the death of John Nice, his widow, Catharine, married George Hertzell, whose name appears in the tax list of 1734, when he was assessed for 50 acres of land in Franconia township. On December 17, 1759, George Hartzel and wife Catharine, and Philip Hahn, all of Franconia, sold and conveyed the farm to Christian Sauter, of the same place.

Catharine Hartzell, died in November 1815, aged 88 years. Her daughter, Elizabeth Nice, born March 31, 1748, married John Mark Hartzell for her first husband; Jacob Wentz for the second, and Michael Hartman for the third. She died April 29, 1835, and is buried at the Indian Creek Reformed church. Philip Nice, born May 10, 1751, married Elizabeth Leidy, April 28, 1772, and died at Nockamixon, Bucks county, May 2, 1799. John Nice, born March 26, 1754, married Catharine Hudt for his first wife, and Margaret Hevener for the second. He died March 3, 1826, and is buried in the Old Goshenhoppen church. Abraham Nice, born January 8, 1756, married Magdalene Landes. He died April 28, 1818, and is buried at the Franconia Mennonite meetinghouse.

On January 26, 1775, the heirs of Christian Souder (who owned the farm) granted to Isaac Souder, one of the heirs of Christian Souder, the said farm in two tracts, containing 75 acres. For some cause or other nine years later John Souder, of Germantown, and Henry Souder, of Franconia, took out letters of administration and conveyed the farm to Isaac Souder, August 14, 1784, and the other farm to Jacob Souder on the same day in a lawful manner. Some years later that Isaac Souder died, leaving a widow Mary and an only child, a daughter Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Freed. The latter wanted the farm conveyed to him and therefore Mr. Freed and wife conveyed the farm in four tracts, comprising 96 acres and 100 perches, to Henry Souder, March 2, 1814, and on April 18, 1814, Henry Souder and wife Nancy conveyed the same back again to Joseph Freed. After the death of Joseph Freed the farm came into the hands of his son, Samuel Freed, and after the death of the latter the farm was sold to Samuel Kulp in 1859. He owned the same 40 years and then sold it to Enos Haldeman, the present owner. Mr. Kulp built all the buildings that are on the farm now.

On August 6, 1724, John Budd and Humphrey Murrey sold 102½ acres of land to a man named Alexander Quee in the deed, but all the adjacent land holders called him Jacob Tutweiler, which undoubtedly is the same as Detweiler, and none of his neighbors so much as mention Alexander Quee. This said tract of land is said to be part of 1000 acres that were surveyed to Budd and Murrey between the Skippack and Perkiomen creeks. In their conveyance Alexander Quee and wife Sarah granted the same messuage and 102½ acres of land to Conrad Custer, June 16, 1729, without mentioning the name of Jacob Tutweiler. Conrad Custer lived here in 1734 and his name appears on the tax list of that year, rated on 100 acres. His name is also written Kister in his deed. He owned his plantation 12 years, and then he and wife Susanna sold the same to Jacob Hunsberger, of Franconia, September 29, 1741. In looking over the journal of David Shultze, of Upper Hanover township, surveyor and conveyancer*, he says in September 1756: "About 12 ten September ist der George Koster auch gestorben. The Indian Trader in Indian Field Skippack." Who this George Custer or Koster was, no one in Franconia knows, and I could do no more than note the item.

Jacob Hunsberger, who was assessed for 50 acres of land in Franconia in 1734, lived at another place then, but now on January 9, 1749, made his last will and testament, and therein devised his plantation of 102½ acres to his son, Abraham Hunsberger, and to another son another son another plantation — to his two sons his two plantations. Abraham Hunsberger lived on this farm about 30 years, and on December 21, 1777, made his last will and testament, and there-in appointed his brother, Isaac Hunsberger, and son-in-law, Isaac Bergey, his executors. Some time after the testator's death Isaac Hunsberger and wife Catharine, on December 2, 1785, released the farm to Isaac Berkey, the other executor. Some time afterward, November 28, 1791, the said Isaac Berkey sold the messuage and two tracts of land described in one, to Christian Benner for £600. This plantation is located northwest from Reliance, and extended from Third street, Telford, along the Reliance road southwest to the schoolhouse, or old road, and up to the Indian Creek.

I almost forgot that I have a short abstract of Jacob Hunsberger's will, which was probated February 10, 1749. The witnesses are Jacob Funk and Henry Klemmer. His will commences with a preamble about his body and soul, as was the custom to commence wills at that time. Secondly, his wife Susanna was to have one-third part of all, real and personal, for her own property forever. Otherwise the will provided for his two sons, Abraham and Isaac. Abraham was "to have the plantation where I now live." He says it is worth more than the other plantation, but Abraham was to have it because he was the oldest son, both were to pay a certain amount to their mother. There were three daughters and each one was to have £50 besides what they

*In 1952, Andrew Berky, director of the Schwenkfelder Library at Pennsburg, compiled and published these journals.

have already. One daughter, Barbara, was not married.. the other two were married, but their names are not given. His wife Susanna, and son Abraham were appointed the executors. Otherwise the will contained nothing worthy of notice.

Christian Benner owned his plantation about 20 years, but on March 13, 1810, he and his wife conveyed 108 acres of it to Jacob Welker, Jr., being the greater part of 119 acres. On July 18, 1795, Christian Benner and wife Mary sold 1— acres and 19 perches of land to Jacob Souder, and the deed was acknowledged before Michael Croll on the day and year above written.

Jacob Welker owned his farm, or part of it, to the end of his life. But on March 24, 1842, he and his wife Margaretta conveyed to Abraham Hangey, of Franconia, 62 acres and the old homestead, being part of 108 acres and 145 perches of land which Christian Benner and wife granted to Jacob Welker, March 31, 1810. The balance of the plantation which Welker kept for himself was 46 acres and 92 perches. He probably built the residence.

After the death of Jacob Welker, who apparently died intestate, the heirs sold the property yet remaining to William Gerhart, March 24, 1853. The heirs who signed the conveyance were Jacob Welker, of Upper Hanover township, Charles Welker, of Marlborough township, and Richard Hollenbush and wife, Margaret, daughter of Jacob Welker, of Colebrookdale township, Berks county.

March 13, 1860, Abraham Hange and wife sold 32 acres to Jacob Stover. The land is now cut up by the railroad and other roads, and is reduced by lots cut off at Reliance and other places.

The farm containing about 100 acres, devised to his other son, Isaac Hunsberger, by their father, Jacob Hunsberger, to which reference has been made, joined his brother Abraham's farm on the southwest, and is located southwest from Reliance schoolhouse. The farm has been badly spoiled by cutting the Harleysville and Souderton turnpike slantingly across. Two tenements have been on the place for a long time, and the farm had been divided in some way, but the said turnpike spoiled the premises. Nothing is known of the farm before it was owned by Jacob Hunsberger, who probably bought it from Budd and Murrey. But as the old conveyances are lost we cannot say for certain. Isaac Hunsberger owned the place till about 1790, when it came into the hands of Peter Gerhart. In later years when the farm was divided Gerhart sold the one part to Philip Race, and Race to John Benner about the year 1840. That part on the northwest side of the turnpike, containing about 60 acres, is now owned by Ephraim Benner. The other part belongs to William Gerhart, son of Charles Gerhart, and grandson of Peter Gerhart.

ABRAHAM REIFF

The name of Abraham Reiff appears in the tax list of 1734, when he was rated on 200 acres of land. He was a brother-in-law to Rev. Henry Funk, and was a deacon in the Mennonite church in Salford.

He came from Perkiomen or Skippack to Franconia in 1719, and for ten years had only a lease for his land. The lease is dated December 24, 1719, for 212 acres, with allowance of 6 per cent for roads. There is room for doubt about the correctness of this date, but it could not be 1729, because Steel and his wife granted a conveyance September 14, 1729, and the lease is still on hand. The boundaries are given as follows:

"Beginning at a corner in a line of James Dickinson's land, then northeast 284 perchs to a corner, a post, then by land of Francis Daniel Pastorius northwest 119 perches to another post, then southwest by land of John Julian Stump 284 perches to a corner, then southeast by a line of marked trees 119 perches to the place of beginning, containing 212 acres."

This tract includes the three farms of Simon Moyer, Jonas L. Moyer and Tyson Detweiler. The distance from the road above Detweiler's schoolhouse to the road below, at Nice's, is 119 perches. Abraham Reiff and his family lived on this plantation 27 years. The first house was probably built on the part belonging to Simon Moyer.

Abraham Reiff's wife, Barbara, was a daughter of Christian Moyer, and a sister to Rev. Harry Funk's wife, Anna.

On April 17, 1746, they conveyed their whole plantation to Jacob Detweiler, of Bedminster township, Bucks county. The witnesses to the deed were Dennis Conrads (who was also known as Dennis Kunders), Robert Jones and William Jones. The deed was acknowledged before Septimus Robinson June 2, 1746. Abraham Reiff lived in Lower Salford sometime afterward according to a document belonging to the Mennonite church in said township. But in advanced age, about the year 1763, he moved to North Coventry, Chester county, and died there the same year. His will was proven December 7, 1763. He had three sons and four daughters, who are mentioned in the will. His sons were Isaac, Christian and Abraham; the daughters were Fronica, Anna, Barbara, and Elizabeth. In his will he also mentions his grandson, Ulrich Huntshberger, and son-in-law, Michael Sentzenich. Some of the descendants of Abraham Reiff still lived in Chester county some years ago.

Christian Reiff, who lived in Chester county, had a son Joseph, who was married to a daughter of Rudolph Harley. Joseph Reiff was a large landholder and his children were Christian, Rudolph, Jacob, Samuel, Barbara, and Mary. The wife of Rev. J. G. Royer, president of Mount Morris College, Ill., is a descendant of Joseph Reiff, of Chester county, who died about the year 1850.

DETWEILER FAMILY

Jacob Detweiler, who purchased the plantation from Abraham Reiff, owned the same about 40 years. He died intestate and on September 1, 1786, the heirs granted 65 acres of it to Martin Detweiler,

who was one of the heirs. The heirs as recited in the conveyance were John Detweiler and wife Barbara, of Bedminster; Abraham Oberholtzer and wife, Magdalene, of Plumstead; Susanna Meyer, of Franconia, widow of Christian Meyer, deceased; Christian Oberholtzer and wife Sarah, of Plumstead; Jacob Moyer and wife Mary, of Lower Salford; John Moyer and wife, Elizabeth, of Franconia, and Hannah Detweiler, spinster.

I have been in the habit of collecting old family records, but where I got the following record of Jacob Detweiler's family I do not recollect. It is, however, to the purpose. The marriages may have been added:

"My first child Magdalene was born July 4, 1739; married Abraham Oberholtzer.

"My second child, born January 25, 1741, was named Susanna Detweiler, married Christian Moyer.

"My third child, born March 9, 1743, was named John Detweiler; married Barbara Moyer.

"My fourth child, born October 17, 1745, was named Sarah Detweiler; married Christian Oberholtzer.

"My fifth child, born May 17, 1748, was named Martin Detweiler; married Mary Moyer.

"My sixth child, born March 1, 1751, was named Maria Detweiler; married Jacob Moyer.

"My seventh child, born March 23, 1754, was named Hanna Detweiler; married Henry Oberholtzer.

"My eighth child, born May 7, 1757, was named Elizabeth Detweiler; married John Moyer."

Jacob Detweiler's wife was Neltgen Kolb, daughter of Martin Kolb. She was born July 20, 1712, and married Jacob Detweiler July 25, 1738. The above record was written in German and reads as if she had written it and someone else had added the marriages.

As already stated, the heirs granted to their brother, Martin Detweiler, a messuage and 65 acres of land, where Jonas S. Moyer now lives, on September 1, 1786, and the balance of the plantation to John Moyer, of Franconia, also one of the heirs. Ten years later, May 27, 1796, Martin Detweiler and wife, having left their farm to their son, Christian Detweiler, moved to Gwynedd or Horsham township. They sold their 65-acre farm to John Moyer, who then owned the whole tract, in all about 225 acres.

On August 6, 1810, John Moyer and wife granted to their son, Jacob Moyer, 45 acres, where Jonas L. Moyer now lives. After the death of John Moyer, who died intestate in 1833, the farm was more equally divided among his three sons, Jacob, John and Jonas D. Moyer, and deeds granted at an Orphans Court in 1834.

We will yet add the following, taken from the history of the **Moyer Family**, page 539:

"John Moyer, born in Springfield township, Bucks county, Pa., November 2, 1757; died August 28, 1833, married Elizabeth Detweiler. After marriage they removed to the old Detweiler homestead, in Montgomery county. The old homestead was a large log cabin that was built before the Revolutionary War. It was used as a meetinghouse before the Franconia meetinghouse was built. He owned 300 acres of land, which was divided into three farms for his sons Jacob, John and Jonas.

"Jacob D. Moyer, born in Montgomery county, May 17, 1781; died February 5, 1862; married Maggdalene Landes November 27, 1808."

"John D. Moyer, born in Montgomery county, January 4, 1792; died March 8, 1867; married Dorothy Weishey. She was born October 10, 1806, and died June 21, 1878."

"Jonas D. Moyer, born in Montgomery county, July 25, 1801, died November 20, 1873; married Susan, daughter of Henry Fretz, of New Britain township, November 23, 1830."

THE DELP FARM AND THE DELP FAMILY

Hans George Delp, also known as John George Delp, emigrated to America in 1738 and arrived in Philadelphia October 28 of that year. On investigation it has recently been learned that the Delp's came from Hesse Darmstadt, in Germany. There is also a Delp family in Berks county, and a few others who came to America more recently are elsewhere.

John George Delp, or George Delp as he was called in later years, after being in this country six or seven years, married Barbara, daughter of Samuel Moyer, of Franconia, whose residence was on the farm of the late Jacob Frederick, but is now the residence of his son. Here Mr. Moyer purchased a tract of 146 acres of land from James Steel and wife Martha in 1719, and here he and his wife afterward lived and died. This place was well adapted for an early residence, as it contained a fine spring and excellent water near the dwelling. Here Samuel Moyer lived in 1734 when the list of taxables was made. The records in Philadelphia show that on January 13, 1733, he paid quit rent on 146 acres, for 15 years standing, £1 12p. 6s.

In 1746 Hans George Delp purchased from Casper Wister and wife of Germantown 146 acres of land on the Skippack in Lower Salford, above Mainland. His conveyance bears date Novembr 14, 1746. Here he built the first loghouse where Benjamin Ruth lives and resided here about five years, until, for some reason or other, he purchased the farm from his father-in-law, Samuel Moyer, which also contained, as already stated, 146 acres. The conveyance bears date June 1, 1751.

Samuel Moyer had only two children, both daughters, Barbara and Anna. His wife probably died before the date of the above conveyance, and his will was made in 1763. In his will no mention is made of his wife, but he mentions his granddaughter, Barbara, who, he says, "is now married to Michael Ziegler, of Goshenhoppen." It further appears by said will that Anna Moyer had married a Zantes (probably the Z should be an L). She died and left two children — Barbara, wife of Michael Ziegler, and Anna, who was yet unmarried. George Delp was appointed the executor in the will to settle up the estate.

For some cause or other there was a burial place commenced on that farm at an early day that is still known as Delp's burial ground. It was commenced before the church in Salford was organized.

If the name Zantes is a mistake, that it should be Landes, it may perhaps be some reason that not only the early Moyers and Delps, but the early Landeses are also buried there.

George Delp and his wife Barbara had seven children, five sons and two daughters, whose names were Samuel, George, John Abraham and Isaac; Catharine, wife of Isaac Derstine, of Rockhill township, and Elizabeth, who married a Roesch, but had no children.

George Delp also purchased the 150-acre farm in Lower Salford, adjoining his farm and extending all the way from his farm on the township line over to the North Wales road along the present Souderton turnpike, for his son, Isaac Delp, who lived at the present residence of Jacob A. Kulp, at Harleysville. The farm on the Skippack was run by his son Samuel until 1785.

George Delp made his last will and testament in writing dated December 11, 1788, which was proven October 12, 1789, and therein appointed his son, George Delp, of Hilltown; his son, Abraham Delp, of Franconia, and his son-in-law, Isaac Derstine, of Rockhill township, to be his executors. His will is on record in the Register's office in Norristown.

Arrangements had been made by articles of agreement between father and son by which his son John was to have the farm on the Skippack for £825, and in compliance with the said agreement his executors granted a deed for it to John in 1791. But in the year 1800 John Delp and wife sold this property to George Heckler, of Lower Salford for £1500. The farm in Franconia, where George Delp lived and died, was conveyed to Abraham Delp by the executors as ordered in the will of his father. The farm is now bounded on the northwest and southwest by a public road, and the land extended so far northeast that 60 acres of it lay on the northeast side of the public road, including the small farm of Samuel G. Bergey and Henry Schueck. On the southeast side the line was straight but some of it had been cut off by the Harleysville and Souderton turnpike.

Samuel Delp, the oldest son of George Delp, was born in 1746 and died in 1809. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Derstein, of Rockhill, and had eight children, named Barbara, Michael, Agnes, Catharine, George, Elizabeth, Samuel and Abraham. They lived in Lower Salford, on his father's farm on the Skippack, until 1785, when he purchased 127½ acres from Enoch Thomas and Griffith Owen in Hilltown. The deed was dated August 3, 1785, and the farm joined "land late of Geoorge Delp," his brother. But in 1793 he purchased of his brother-in-law, Jacob Clemens, a farm containing 94 acres in Buckingham township, beyond Doylestown, and moved there, having sold his large farm in Hilltown to Isaac Kulp. At the time of his death in 1809 he still owned a farm of 96 acres, with a sawmill and an oilmill on it. Of his children, Michael, born in Lower Salford, April 28, 1768, married Sarah Overholtzer in 1791. In the year 1804, he with his family and a number of other families of the Mennonite church from Bucks county, moved to the neighborhood of what is now Bangor, about 16 miles north of Easton, in the present slate region in Northampton county. Here they built a small meetinghouse and organized a church in what is now the borough of Bangor, where the old graveyard is yet a prominent landmark in what was formerly the village of Delpsburg.

As regards Samuel Delp's other children: Agnes remained unmarried, but Catharine, born in Lower Salford, June 21, 1772, married Jacob Kulp, of Bucks county. He was called to the ministry in the Mennonite church near Doylestown in the year 1818, where he preached until June 1831, when he and his family moved to Ohio.

George D. Delp, son of Samuel, born in Lower Salford in 1776, died in 1841. He married Hannah Meyers, who was born in 1781 and died in 1874. In the year 1806, George Delp, of Buckingham township, what is now the village of Chalfont, which at the time of his purchase contained 60 acres, but at the time of his death had increased to 94 acres. Some of his descendants are still living in that vicinity.

Samuel D. Delp, born in 1780, died in 1838. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Ruth, of New Britain, and owned a farm near the State Road, east of Chalfont. His descendants are nearly all in Philadelphia. Elizabeth D. Delp married Abraham Moyer and lived not far from Doylestown.

Abraham D. Delp became the owner of his father, Samuel Delp's farm, in Buckingham, in 1811, but he died there in 1827.

The following is taken from the **Doylestown Democrat and Farmers' Gazette** of Tuesday, August 28, 1827:

"SHOCKING ACCIDENT — On Tuesday morning last, about 10 o'clock, while Abraham Delp, of Buckingham township, was engaged in drawing out a blast of powder, which had been filled into an auger hole for the purpose of blowing a limestone rock, it unexpectedly went off and mangled him in a dreadful manner. In the afternoon both his

hands were amputated above the wrists but he was so severely bruised in other parts of the body that he expired the same evening. Dr. Delp was sober and industrious, a good citizen, and has left a widow and six children to bemoan the loss of a kind husband and affectionate parent."

George Delp, the second son of John George Delp and wife Barbara, was born in Lower Salford, February 4, 1748, and died April 6, 1815. He owned a farm in Hilltown, where he lived many years. He was one of the executors in the settlement of his father's estate. He was twice married. His first wife Magdalena, born in 1750, died August 4, 1811. He married a second time, and then lived in Warwick township, Bucks county, until the time of his death in 1815. His second wife Barbara outlived him, but who she was is not known. He and his first wife Magdalena are buried at the Mennonite meetinghouse, near Doylestown. They had twelve children, though only eleven are mentioned in his will. One Mary having died unmarried. Those mentioned in the will are John, George, Isaac, Henry, Abraham, Elizabeth, wife of John Detweiler; Barbara, wife of Henry Swartley; Magdalena, wife of Joseph Fretz; Catharine, wife of John Swartley; Susanna, wife of John Loux; Ann, late the wife of Samuel Hall. His son, Isaac Delp, was appointed sole executor. He also owned land in Plumstead township, besides several tracts in other townships.

His oldest son, John Delp, born in Hilltown, January 28, 1771, died in February 1832. He was married three times, if his statements are correct. The family record in his Bible shows that his first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Weirman, miller, of Hatfield. He afterward purchased his father-in-law, John Weirman's mill and farm of 76 acres, now part thereof owned by Jacob H. Hunsberger, near the Dunkard church, in Hatfield township.

John Delp made his will April 29, 1831, which was proven February 25, 1832. In said will he mentions his daughters, Catharine, wife of Michael Swartley; Magdalena, wife of Martin Swartley; Sophia, wife of John Derstein; Anna, wife of Abraham Swartley. He also mentions two grandchildren, namely, Elizabeth and Sophia, children of his deceased daughter, Margaret, wife of Isaac Weirman. His son, John Delp, was to have his farm. George Delp, east of Franconia Square, and Abraham D. Delp, of Elroy, are descendants of this branch of the family. If John Delp's statement in his family record is correct that his second wife was Mary Leatherman, he was married three times, for the last wife was Anna Loux, who survived him ten years. She died in March 1842. He made provision for her in his will, and she in her will mentions his children and the children of her sister, Catharine, widow of Isaac Delp. John Delp and his last wife, Ann Loux, lived in New Britain township. They were farmers and Mennonites.

George Delp, of the third generation, was born in Hilltown, September 9, 1772, and died January 3, 1830. He made his will April 3, 1829, which was proven January 18, 1830. At the time of making his

will he was a resident of Bedminister township, and in his will he mentions his wife Margaret, his son Jacob, his daughter, Margaret, and daughter, Frany; his grandchildren, the children of Ulrich Hockman, and his grandchild, Magdalena Delp, daughter of my son, Samuel Delp, deceased. His wife Margaret Delp, born June 5, 1781, died February 24, 1853. She is buried at the Tohickon church, near Keelersville, while he is buried at the Deep Run Mennonite church. After his death his widow resided with her son, Jacob Delp, the tanner, near Keelersville. It is said she was his second wife, her maiden name was Margaret Idem. The children of the first wife were Samuel, Polly, John, and of the second wife, Jacob, Margaret and Fanny.

Isaac Delp, of the third generation, born in Hilltown, about the year 1780, died in 1816; married Catharine Loux, and resided in Plumstead township. He left two sons, John L. Delp and George L. Delp, both under 14 years of age.

Henry Delp, of the third generation, died November 21, 1815, and is buried at Line Lexington. His age is also given, but is not correct. Apparently he was not married.

Abraham Delp, of the third generation, the youngest son of George, of Hilltown, born July 13, 1792, died August 25, 1866. He married Magdalena Moyer. She was born June 20, 1798, and died July 25, 1868. They lived in Hilltown and had two children, Elizabeth and Mary. Elizabeth married Dr. Peter Shive, and Mary married Peter Ruth.

John Delp, the third son of John George Delp and wife Barbara, was born in Lower Salford township, June 20, 1750, and married Elizabeth Krupp, daughter of Jacob Krupp, of Lower Salford.

The farm on the Skippack, owned by his father, John George Delp, comprising the farm of Benjamin Ruth, Samuel Freed and Isaac Rosenberger, containing in all 146 acres, was granted to John Delp by the executors of his father's estate in accordance with an agreement between father and son, for £825, and a conveyance was granted May 21, 1791. But in the year 1800 John Delp sold the said plantation to George Heckler, of Lower Salford, for £1500. During the time he lived here he was twice one of the supervisors of the township, namely in 1778 and in 1799. They had seven children, all sons, named, George, Jacob, Abraham, John, Isaac, Samuel and Henry.

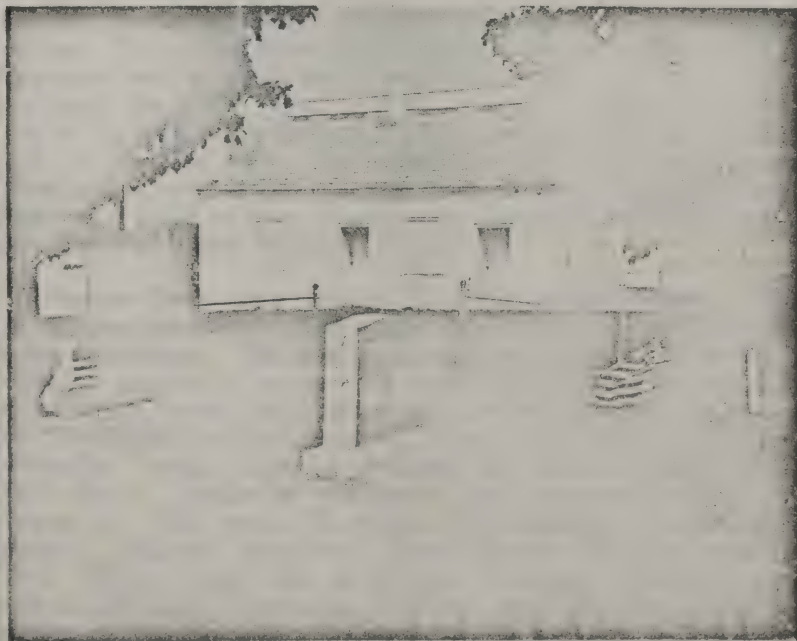
I can not tell you where he lived after leaving the Skippack, but it is said he moved to Shamokin; and after while he returned with his family. In his old age he kept a tavern in Warrington township, at what is now in Eureka, in Bucks county. He made his will December 16, 1824, which was probated November 26, 1827, and is on record at Doylestown. His three sons, John, Isaac, and Samuel, were his executors. He and his wife are buried at the Towamencin Mennonite meetinghouse. He died November 8, 1827, aged 77 years, 4 months and 18 days. His wife, Elizabeth, died May 8, 1822, aged 70 years, 3 months and 2 days.

George Delp, oldest son of John and Elizabeth Delp, married Rachel Hendricks, of Towamencin, and had ten children, named George, Elizabeth, Leonard, John, Jacob, Catharine, Rachel, Margaret, Mary and Susan. They were residents of Towamencin, Lower Salford and Hatfield.

Jacob Delp, the second son of John Delp, married Christiana Page, of Shamokin. They lived and died in Lower Milford township, Bucks county, and had twelve children, named John, Catharine, Michael, Elizabeth, Jacob, George, Abraham, Samuel, Isaac, Henry, Christiana and Catharine. The first, Catharine, died at the age of 12 years. Of this family, Michael and others moved to Sterling, Ill.

Abraham K. Delp, born in 1783, third son of John M. Delp, married Barbara Hendricks, of Towamencin. They had no children, and in old age lived in Kulpsville, and were poor. They both died about the year 1860.

John K. Delp, the fourth son of John M. Delp, born March 5, 1785, died January 7, 1851, married Margaret Kline, of Juniata, or of Shamokin. She was born February 16, 1789, and died August 7, 1832. They are buried in the Towamencin Mennonite burial ground. Their children were George, Elizabeth, Rachel, Margaret, Mary, Samuel, Sarah, Catharine, Leah and John.



Delp's Burial Ground and Herrite Meeting House

Isaac K. Delp, the fifth son of John M. Delp, born March 20, 1789, died March 2, 1856, married Rachel Fretz. She was born April 26, 1794, died July 6, 1875. They lived in Hatfield and had one son, Ephraim Delp, who is yet living.

Samuel K. Delp, the sixth son of John M. Delp, born August 1, 1795, died February 26, 1861, married first Catharine Freed and had one son, Abraham F. Delp; married the second time Elizabeth Moyer, and had five children named John, Mary, Eliza, Catharine and Susan. They were also residents of Hatfield township.

Henry K. Delp, youngest son of John M. Delp, married Fannie Rickett. They lived in Plumstead township, Bucks county, and had no children. He was six feet four inches high, and died in 1835. She afterward married Michael Hunsberger, and is buried at Leidy's church.

Abraham Delp, fourth son of Hans George who received his father's farm in Franconia, was born March 13, 1756, married Barbara, daughter of Christian Clemmer. They had nine children, whose names were: Catharine, Margaret, Elizabeth, George, Mary, Sarah, Susan, Nancy and Barbara. On May 11, 1822, Abraham Delp and wife conveyed to Peter Heckler 60 acres of his farm on the east side of the road, included in the farms of Samuel G. Bergey and Henry Shueck, besides the lot occupied by Mr. Bury for \$1800. The tract was 91 perches in length along the Souderton turnpike, southwest to the corner at Jacob Young's, and the distance along the road northwest was 104 perches. The upper line was 91 perches and the east line 104 perches. This tract, with a messuage, Peter Heckler and wife conveyed to their son Jacob for \$1800, April 2, 1827. Abraham Delp was a prominent man in his time in the community in which he lived. He died April 27, 1838, in his 83rd year. His children were Catharine, wife of David Rosenberger, who lived in Lower Providence; Margaret, wife of Jacob Ruth, who lived in New Britain, and Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Bealer, who lived in Upper Milford.

George Delp, born August 30, 1785, married Susanna Godshalk. He became the owner of his father's farm, and was a very useful man in the community. He was well educated for those times and taught school a number of years. He was also a conveyer and scrivener; an excellent singer, and also taught singing school. Besides he was the "foresinger" in the Mennonite church, Franconia, until a few years before his death, when he changed his church relations to the Dunkard church, where he afterward held his membership. He died August 26, 1844, aged 59 years. His children were Mary, wife of Isaac O. Alderfer; Abraham, Garret, Jonas; Elizabeth, wife of Isaac Kline; Henry; Anna, wife of William Weirman; Godshall; Catharine, wife of William Clemmens; William, and Susanna, wife of Henry Moyer. After the death of George Delp, his farm was sold to Jacob Frederick, who owned the same about 40 years, but is now owned by his son, George Frederick.

Mary Delp, sister to George, married Samuel Shelly. Sarah Delp married Samuel Krupp. Susan Delp was born December 3, 1792, died January 3, 1874, aged 81 years. She never married. Barbara Delp was born September 19, 1794, married Jacob Heckler. She died November 16, 1860, aged 86 years. Jacob Heckler died in Harleysville, January 5, 1890, aged 90 years. Some time after Jacob Heckler purchased that 80-acre farm with improvements he sold 30 acres of it to his brother-in-law, Jacob L. Moyer, who then built that brick house where Henry Shueck lives, but in the Fall of 1842, Jacob L. Moyer's wife died. Some years later Mr. Moyer sold the place to William Cassel, of Towamencin. He then resided there about 20 years.

Anna Delp, sister to George, born November 4, 1804, married John Heckler. She died March 8, 1845.

Isaac Delp, was the youngest son of John George Delp. He was born November 6, 1761, and died January 26, 1829; married Anna Benner, and had seven children, named George, Elizabeth, Ann, Isaac, Mollie, John and Catharine. As already stated, Isaac Delp owned the farm of 150 acres along the present Scuderton turnpike, back to the line of his father, which is the line of Lower Salford and Franconia. Isaac Delp's sister, Elizabeth, who married Roesh, lived in a small house near the east end of this farm. Roesh was an unhealthy man and did not live to get old, and they had no children. After his death, Elizabeth lived with her brother, Abraham Delp. This farm is now cut up into several small farms and lots. After the death of Isaac Delp, his youngest son, John Delp, received the farm. He is yet remembered by some people, but the farm did not contain more than about 50 acres when John had it. It is not that large now.

Catharine Delp, daughter of John George Delp, married Isaac Derstein, of Rockhill township, and had eleven children. Isaac Derstein was one of the executors of his father-in-law, John George Delp's estate. The names of the children have been obtained, but nothing further that may be reliable. The first born son apparently died in infancy. The children were Michael, Barbara, George, Michael, Isaac, Elizabeth, Catharine, Abraham, Henry, Hannah and Samuel. By what the late George Derstein, of Rockhill, said, he was a descendant of this family.

George Delp, the oldest son of Isaac Delp, born May 4, 1784, died November 3, 1866, married Mary Ziegler. She died in 1861. They lived in Lower Salford and were not progressive. They had three children, Isaac, Sarah, and Ann.

Elizabeth Delp, daughter of Isaac Delp, married Jacob A. Benner. They lived in Philadelphia.

Ann Delp, daughter of Isaac Delp, married Jacob B. Benner. They lived in Philadelphia.

Isaac Delp, son of Isaac Delp, born March 11, 1790, married Anna

Weirman, November 19, 1815. he was born July 16, 1792. They had three children, John, Michael and Anna.

Mollie Delp, daughter of Isaac Delp, born March 25, 1795, died September 12, 1869, married Martin Wisler, carpenter. They lived in Lucon, and had four children, Elmira, Anna, Charles and Jonas.

John Delp, son of Isaac Delp, born July 29, 1796, died November 2, 1881, married Rahcael Schwauger. She was born April 4, 1801, and died November 9, 1881. They lived on their farm at Harleysville a long time. Their children were Matilda, Frank, Ann, Mary, Elizabeth, Lydia, Eli and William.

Catharine Delp, born January 25, 1803, died August 24, 1881, married John Loch, November 9, 1830. He died June 16, 1884, aged 84 years. They lived in Upper Gwynedd and had three children, Charles, John, and Catharine.

THE SOUDER FARM

On July 26, 1723, 100 acres of land on the Indian Creek were granted to a German named Jacob Garman, or German, by two speculators known as John Budd and Humphrey Murrey. The recitals show that William Penn had granted 3000 acres of land to John Wilmer, who transferred it, not located, to Randolph Janney, who afterward transferred the same to the said Budd and Murrey, and they had 1000 acres of it located and surveyed to them at this place, between the Skippack and Perkiomen, and now this 100 acres was part and parcel of 1000 acres surveyed to them by virtue of two warrants. This conveyance was granted, signed and sealed the July 26, 1723, in the ninth year of the reign of King George over Great Britain.

On March 26, 1728, the said Budd and Murrey granted 73 acres in a narrow strip along the northeast side of Jacob Garman's land to George Garman, probably a brother to Jacob, but it appears these men did not like this place and hence on December 22, 1732, George Garman or German, and wife Barbara, conveyed their messuage and plantation, containing 73 acres, to Michael Burghe, of the township of Franconia. The tract is thus described: Beginning at a post, being a corner of Jacob German's land, then by the same southeast 293 perches to a post, a corner of Conrad Custer's land, formerly Jacob Totweiler's land, then by the same northeast 40 perches to a post, then northwest 293 perches to a post, then southwest 40 perches to the place of beginning. For these 73 acres he received £60. The line between the above tract and of Conrad Custer was the same as now on the east side of the Indian Creek. This conveyance was witnessed by Margaret Furman and Henry Pastorius, who was their attorney.

On December 24, 1735, Jacob Garman and wife Catharine, of Conestoga, Philadelphia county, conveyed to Michael Berria (Burghe), of the same county, their plantation of 100 acres. Twenty years later, April 24, 1755, Michael Berria (Burghe), of Franconie, and wife Catharine conveyed their whole plantation, containing 173 acres, to

Christian Souder. The land extended back to the Branch of the Perkiomen. The name of George German appears in the tax list of 1734, rated on 100 acres of land. It appears the land was surveyed and a draft made for Christian Souder about the time of his purchase, but Mr. Berria had sold and conveyed three-fourths of an acre to people called "**Reformers or Pressbiterians**" to build a meetinghouse and for a burial place. The boundaries are thus described: Beginning at a black oak, back at the Branch Creek, at a corner of Henry Cirkle's land, then by Henry Berhart's land northeast 102 perches to a corner stone, then by Andrew Trumbore's land southeast 304 perches to a post, then by land late of Conrad Custer, now of Abraham Hunsberger, southwest 40 perches to a post, then by land late of Henry Cirkle, now of John DeNyce northwest 2 perches to a black oak, then southwest 7 perches to an apple tree at a corner, then northwest 8 perches by the meetinghouse lot to another apple tree at another corner, then southwest 15 perches to a white oak sapling standing in a road leading from George Moyer's mill to Philadelphia, then along the said road northwest 234 perches to the place of beginning, containing 172½ acres. Three-fourths of an acre had been granted for a church and burial place, showing that the first church there was built before 1755. The draft shows also the irregularity of the line of Enos Haldeman's farm at the Indian Creek. We have also a copy of a receipt showing that Christian Souder borrowed money in Philadelphia to pay for his farm and afterward paid back the money.

Philadelphia, June 2, 1761.

Rec'd of Christian Souder eighteen pounds eight shillings and six pence in full discharge of his Mortg a Deed to the Gen. Loan Office. Satisfaction entered on Record Book No. 11, page 316. £30 8s. 6p.

Christian Souder died intestate, leaving a widow Margaret and nine children, whose names were Jacob, Isaac, Christian, Abraham; Susanna, wife of Abraham Schanta; Barbara and Catharine, John and Henry administrators, all of age. Jacob, the oldest son, received two shares. He was married to Barbara, daughter of John Funk. She was born in 1752. He bought the farm for £115.

On December 17, 1759, Christian Souder purchased the farm on the other side of the creek from the executors of the estate of John Nyce, deceased. The residence was down back of the barn, not far from the creek. This farm, containing 75 acres, in two tracts, became the property of Isaac Souder, and after him of his son-in-law, Joseph Freed.

On January 26, 1775, the heirs of Christian Souder held a partial settlement and granted a deed to Jacob Souder and one to Isaac Souder; all the heirs except the purchasers signed the conveyances. The widow Margaret retained her dower in the farms. But nine years later, when probably the widow was dead, letters of administration on the estate of Christian Souder were granted to John Souder, of Germantown, and Henry Souder, of Franconia, and on August 14,

1784, other conveyances were granted to Jacob Souder and to Isaac Souder, and acknowledged before Michael Croll, Esq., in a lawful manner.

Christian Souder, Jr., moved around to different places in Franconia township. We find him first purchasing from Henry Freed and wife, on the Indian Creek, the old Fry farm, but more recently the Bergey farm, May 23, 1775. On that farm at the Indian Creek he resided nine years, or until June 5, 1784, when he sold the same to Daniel Wambold. One year later, May 3, 1785, we find he purchased from Isaac Benner and wife 100 acres, now comprising the farms of Samuel Hackman and Jacob Godshall, late the Yoder farm. This farm he sold to Henry Souder, presumably his son, August 11, 1791. But before the consummation of this last sale we find him purchasing the 100 acre farm from Christian Cressman and wife Elizabeth, June 3, 1791, which land is now mostly covered by the borough of Souderton. Here he lived yet 32 years and died here, apparently in 1823. He made his last will and testament bearing date October 24, 1821, and thereby devised the remaining plantation, containing yet about 48 acres, to his son, Christian Souder, Jr., and appointed his sons, Henry and Christian, executors of his will. On May 3, 1824, Henry Souder, executor, granted to his co-executor, Christian Souder, a conveyance for the remaining farm as ordered in the will. There appear to have been seven children, three sons and four daughters: Henry, Christian, Abraham; Catharine, wife of Christian Hunsberger; Magdalene, wife of Abraham Yeackel; Elizabeth and Barbara, spinsters.

Christian Souder, Sr., owned another farm 14 years, from 1746 to 1760, before he bought this farm. The said farm, containing 110 acres with other lands, is now owned by Samuel Bergey and others, which Christian Souder and wife sold to Isaac Berkey, June 20, 1760.

The farm of John D. Souder, though much reduced in size, has now been in the Souder family 146 years. Christian Souder bought it in 1755. After his death it was owned by his son Jacob; after Jacob, by his son Christian; after Christian, by his son, John U. Souder, and after him by his son, John D. Souder*, the present owner.

Copy of Agreement

Know all men by these presents that we Abraham Gerhart and Michael Scholl trustees of the German Protestant Reformed congregation of the township of Franconia in the county of Montgomery have for and in consideration of eleven perches and one fourth of a perch of land granted unto us in fee by Jacob Souder at and before the sealing and delivery hereof in trust for the use of the aforesaid congregation, Covenanted, granted and agreed to and with the said Jacob Souder, his heirs and assigns by these presents in manner and form as follows, that is to say that the said German Protestant Reformed Congregation their heirs and successors shall and will at all

*First historian and member of the Franconia Mennonite Conference.

times hereafter grant and allow unto the said Jacob Souder his heirs and assigns a free and open road to pass and repass along the south-east end of the land belonging to the aforesaid Congregation along the line of Isaac Souder's land unto the publick road leading to Philadelphia at least three fourth of a perch wide. In Witness whereof we have to these presents set our hands and seals, Dated the twenty first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us
 Jacob Hetringond Abraham Gerhart
 Michael Croll Michael Scholl

Acknowledged before Michael Croll Feb. 6th, 1792.

The above agreement was made before the public road was laid out across there. There can be little doubt that the right name of the second owner of this farm was Michael Bergey. The name written in one or two of the conveyances is Berria, in one it is Burghe as a signer of the petition for a road from Gabriel Shuler's mill, on the Perkiomen, to the Philadelphia road, it is written Burge, in the will of Henry Zirkell it is Burge, and on the outside of the stone of the Reformed church at Indian Creek it is Michael Birge. The German pronunciation of Bergey is Berge and an Englishman writing the name by the sound would be very likely to write it Berria as the best he could do. I will not attempt to identify this Michael Bergey with the neighboring Bergeys of the township, as the latter are Mennonites, as their ancestors have been, while the former belonged to the Reformed Church. The latter are undoubtedly the descendants of Hans Ulrich Bergey, of Lower Salford.

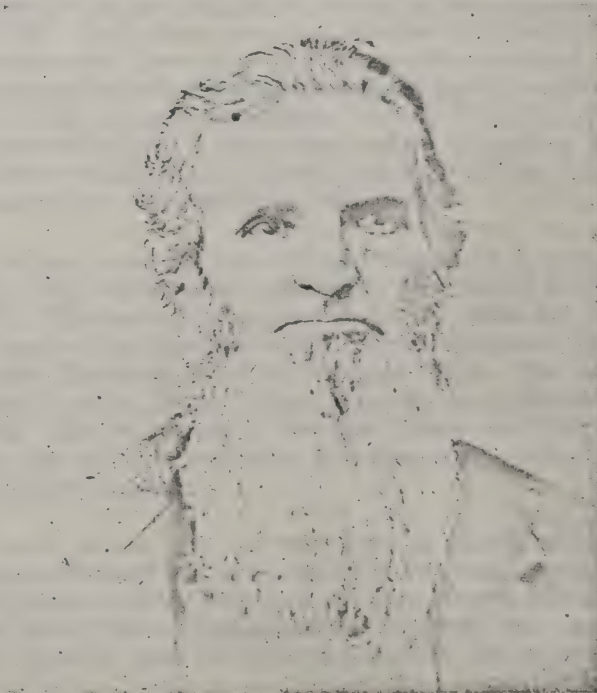
Michael Burger landed in Pennsylvania September 5, 1730. By a draft made in 1813 it shows that the farm contained yet 106 acres and farther up the road 40 acres had been cut out and sold to Osaac Bergey, while on the other side of the line, the middle part of the tract, stil went to Isaac Bergey's name, and the front portion was in John Bergey's name. Going up the Cowpath, above the Bergey tract were yet 40 acres of woodland apparently belonging to the Souder farm.

CHRISTIAN MOYER

All the land on the southeast side of the Harleysville and Souderton turnpike from the Franconia Mennonite meetinghouse over to the other corner, known as Young's corner, a distance of 283 perches, and 96 perches wide, containing 170 acres with allowance of 6 per cent, making in all 180 acres, and including the farms of Abraham F. Moyer, Benjamin P. Moyer, Abraham Clemmer, and the lot of Menno Derstein, was purchased in one tract of wild land from James Steel and wife Martha, of Philadelphia, by Christian Moyer, a pioneer settler, November 14, 1729. And the first house was built near the present residence of Abraham F. Moyer. Here Christian Moyer, the deacon, lived 58 years or until 1787, and during that time experienced many things that

were not pleasant, and now after being dead over 100 years we sit down to write about him. Besides raising a family of 9 children he had the care of the church and the very unpleasant affair with his nephew, Christian Funk, in the controversy which arose between them at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War in regard to the payment of revenues demanded by Congress as the new government, and the recognition of the said government in which the attest or declaration of allegiance and loyalty to the new government of Congress was demanded. These were new things to the deacon, and in his narrow way of thinking he could not reconcile the more liberal views of his nephew and his associates. It was a time of war in the land and of trouble in the church, and Christian Moyer did not live to see the end of it. In his time he was a useful man in the church and was respected by the members individually when he was called in to assist in the settlement of estates or to be a witness to some transaction.

After the death of his mother, his father Christian Moyer, Sr., of Lower Salford, sold his farm to his grandson, Christian Moyer, oldest son of Christian Moyer, the deacon, and in his old age made his home with his son, Christian, in Franconia, and eventually died there. He



JAMES Y. HECKLER — 1829 - 1901

came to Pennsylvania in an early day and purchased of the Provincial Government 150 acres of land "lying and being between the branches of the Skepeck and Parkeawming, which was surveyed to him in 1717, two years before his son-in-law, Henry Funk, came to Franconia, to join land with him. His land is well known as lying along the northwest side of the Harleysville and Souderton turnpike, from the Sumneytown turnpike to the line of Franconia township, and his residence was where Lewis Moyer* now lives, above Harleysville. While living with his son in Franconia he made his will dated January 18, 1748, which was probated June 6, 1751. His wife, Barbara, was dead before the will was made. His eldest son, Christian Moyer, the deacon, and his son-in-law, Henry Funk, were appointed the sole executors of his estate. Jacob Funck, John Frey and George Bachtel were witnesses of the will. Six children are mentioned in the will, namely: Christian, Jacob, Samuel; Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Oblinger; Anna, wife of Henry Funk; Barbara, wife of Abraham Reiff.

The old homestead where Christian Moyer, the deacon, lived is located half a mile southwest of the Franconia Mennonite meetinghouse, and all the land belonging to the meetinghouse and sheds is part of it, and the said farm has now been in the Moyer family 172 years. It has never been sold out of the family. Christian Moyer and Abraham Reiff, of Franconia, were deacons when the ground for the Mennonite meetinghouse and burial ground in Salford was purchased, October 5, 1738. And when the meetinghouse in Franconia was built Christian Moyer was there too, and apparently, donated a corner of his land, because there is no conveyance on hand to show anything. The records of the church commence July 15, 1765, but the meetinghouse was probably built a short time before, a year or two. Tradition says they worshipped in a large loghouse on the farm of Tyson Detweiler before the meetinghouse was built.

Christian Moyer made his last will and testament in writing, bearing date April 26, 1782, which was probated in Norristown five years later, May 31, 1787. The executors named in the will were his son, Samuel Moyer, and son-in-law, Abraham Kratz. The witnesses to the will were Isaac Dorstone, Abraham Stout and Menyo Haas. The names of his children were Christian, Jacob, Esther, Samuel, Anna, Barbara, Fronica, Esther, Maria. As the names of the first Esther and Fronica are not mentioned in the will it is probable that they died young. In the will appears the following item:

"I give and devise unto my son Samuel Moyer all my Tract of Land situated, and being in the township of Franconia aforesaid and is bounded by lands of Henry Rosenberger, John Freed, Martin Detweiler, George Delp and others, containing one hundred and seventy acres, be the same more or less, to have and to hold the aforesaid Tract of

*Still lives near Harleysville with his son-in-law, L. F. Kulp, age 93.

one hundred and seventy acres of land together with the Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereto belonging (together with my two Copper Kettles).

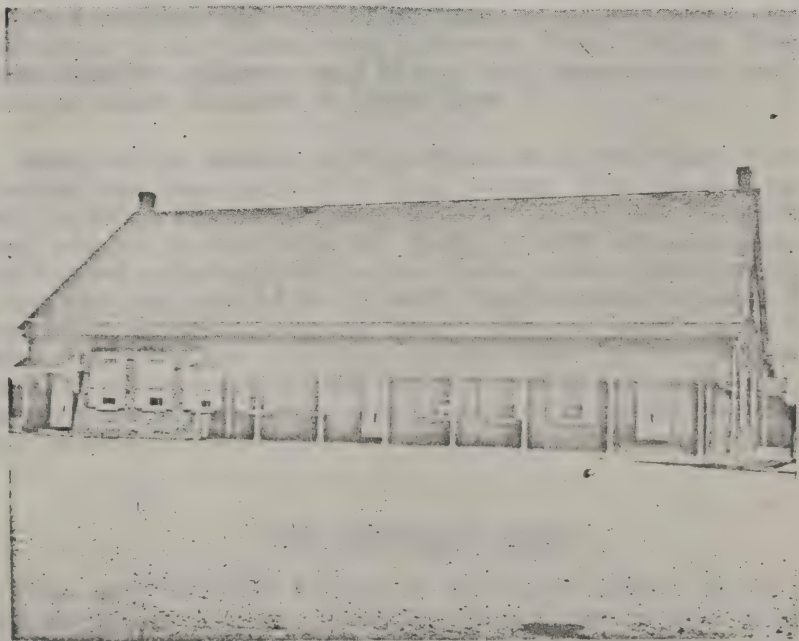
In the history of the **Moyer family***, Rev. A. J. Fretz represented under this express Limitation, that my son Samuel Moyer or his Heirs or Assigns shall pay or cause to be well and truly paid for the Said Tract of Land, the sum of eight hundred Pounds in Gold or Silver money."

In the history of the Moyer family, Rev. A. J. Fretz, represented Samuel as the third son.

The eldest son, Christian Moyer, who purchased his grandfather's farm, above Harleysville, in Lower Salford, where he was rated on 232 acres of land in 1776, died before his father died in 1783. He was married to Susanna Detweiler, a sister to Martin Detweiler, and by his death left a widow and twelve children.

The second son is represented as Jacob, by Rev. A. J. Fretz, and as a minister in the Mennonite church, at Perkasio or Blooming Glen, with his residence at Hilltown. He was twice married and his second

*Published in Harleysville, in 1896, a rare book, only 200 printed; a fine copy in the Roy C. Kulp collection.



FRANCONIA MENNONITE MEETING HOUSE

wife was Barbara Dirstein. See **History of the Moyer Family**, page 80. Rev. Samuel Moyer, to whom the farm had been devised, lived in Hilltown township, Bucks county, and remained there until he died. He was in his day a dearly beloved and widely known preacher in the Mennonite Church, says Rev. Fretz. Samuel was married to Catharine Kolb, of Bucks county; Anna Moyer married John Kratz; Barbara Moyer married Abraham Kratz; Esther Moyer married Christian Gehman; Maria Moyer married Martin Detweiler. In 1794 Samuel Moyer and wife Catharine divided their large plantation in Franconia between their two sons, Isaac and Christian. The conveyance to their son, Isaac Moyer, is dated May 1, 1794, for 87 acres and 73 perches of land, for which he was charged £431 and 10 shillings, and on the same day, May 1, 1794, the said parents granted to their son, Christian Moyer, 87 acres and 76 perches, with the old homestead. Each tract being part of the large plantation, which his father, Christian Moyer, by his will devised and granted to his son, Samuel Moyer. On April 7, 1810, Christian Moyer, who received the old homestead, and his wife Mary, of Bedminister township, Bucks county, granted the same farm to their son, Rudolph Moyer, who owned the farm until November 20, 1866, when he and his wife Barbara granted the same to their son, Abraham F. Moyer, the present owner.

Isaac Moyer, born October 11, 1758, married Mary Landes, and he probably built the first house on his farm, where Abraham Clemmer now lives, in 1794. Some old people recollect the old house. It is thought he also built the first part of the house where Benjamin P. Moyer now lives, and divided his farm among two of his children. The names of his children were Catharine, Sarah, Samuel, Elizabeth, Isaac, Abraham, Susanna and Mary. Isaac was a farmer and dyer. He lived where Benjamin P. Moyer lives.

Mary Moyer married Michael Young and lived where Abraham Clemmer now lives and had 42 acres of land. After she died he married her sister, Elizabeth Moyer, and some years later Elizabeth also died, and for his third wife Mr. Young married Elizabeth Detweiler, and had yet one son, Jacob Young. Then it came to pass that Michael Young died also about June 20, 1839. The children of Michael Young were Isaac, Abraham, Michael, Joseph, John and Jacob. Isaac Young being the oldest son and being on age when his father died, took the farm at the appraisement, which was \$2663.11 or \$63 per acre, including the dower. Isaac was an expert blacksmith, but after running his farm and working at his trade ten or twelve years he died.

THE FUHRMAN FARM

The farm of Frank Bergey, on the Indian Creek, though much reduced in size, was purchased by Jacob Fuhrman from Budd and Murrey, July 24, 1723, for 146 acres. It is the second farm west from the Reformed church. There are two conveyances there, granted the

same day and year by Budd and Murrey, one for 100 acres and the other for 146 acres. Both go over the same ground, commencing back at the Branch Creek at a corner of William Neus or Nice's land, then northeast by a line of marked trees 40 perches to a post, a corner. This corner was up at the Cowpath, near a barn built by the late Henry D. Wile, ten or fifteen years ago. In the one conveyance the land extends from said corner southwest 40 perches to a corner, then northwest 400 perches to the place of beginning, containing 100 acres. In the other conveyance going southwest from the corner at the Cowpath the line extends 92 perches instead of 40 to a corner of Leonard Cristler's land, then northeast 52 perches to an oak tree, being also a corner of Neus's land, then northeast 52 perches to an oak tree, being



Indianfield Lutheran Church

also a corner of William Neus's land, then northwest by the said Neus land 258 perches to the place of beginning, containing 146 acres. Those 46 acres more were down on the elevation, and now partly in the farm of William Freed and others below the Telford turnpike.

Jacob Fuhrman made his last will and testament bearing date April 4, 1748, and therein ordered that his son, John Fuhrman, should have his farm, when he said "all the residue of my estate as well as personal and plantation do I give and devise to my said son, John.

John Fuhrman owned the place about 37 years, from 1748 to 1785, when he conveyed his plantation, containing at that time yet 122 acres and 104 perches to his son, Henry Fuhrman, for £500. The title is dated September 23, 1785. The latter then owned this farm 42 years until he died, but in the meantime had sold off so much of the land that the farm was only yet 45 acres with a disconnected tract of 15 acres, probably woodland, embracing in all 60 acres and 10 perches with the old homestead. After his death the land was sold by the heirs, who were Henry Fuhrman and wife Hannah, of Hilltown; Abraham Derstein and wife Elizabeth, of Richland, Bucks county; John Benner, schoolteacher, and wife Mary, of Lowhill township, Lehigh county; Abraham Young, blacksmith, and wife Sarah, of Lowhill township, Lehigh county; Henry Berndt, blacksmith, and wife Catharine, of Franconia. All these signed the conveyance of the Fuhrman farm to William Wile, of Franconia, February 25, 1828. He owned the place 31 years, when he and his wife Abigail, sold the same to their son, the late Henry D. Wile, April 4, 1859. He again owned the place 35 years, when he and his wife, Catharine, sold the farm to Frank K. Bergey, the present owner, January 10, 1894. On May 5, 1889, a conveyance was made by ex-Director of the Poor Henry D. Wile and wife to their son ex-Assemblyman Frank G. Wile, but the sale proved a failure.

Henry Fuhrman at some time sold a small tract to George Bilger, who built a house at the road, which is now the Telford turnpike. Bilger was a politician of the old Democratic school, and also had some influence. He was the Assessor of Franconia for some time, and in advanced years succeeded in getting a postoffice in the township, which he kept in his own private residence, called Franconia postoffice, with himself as postmaster, as already mentioned in an introductory sketch. The postoffice was afterward removed to Franconia Square. He undoubtedly also was instrumental in getting the cross-road from Franconia Square over to the Reformed church and thence to the County Line or over to the Bethlehem and Philadelphia road.

Going down the line fence from the aforementioned barn on the Cowpath toward the Indian Creek, we came to the Fuhrman burial ground, a desecrated spot, and it is a shame that people are so selfish and have no more respect for the graves of the pioneer settlers of the country, and the ancestors of their generations, then to plow over their graves. Those people in the early settlement of the country were in a fix, and had to have burial places before the churches were built and regular burial grounds were established. They had to do the

best they could. The whole graveyard has not yet been plowed, but where the headstone sticks up in the grain field it has, and stones with initials on lay around. When I was there the evening sun shone so brightly against the stone that I could not see to read, but I accept as correct what John D. Souder has copied: "In memory of George Ludwig Hauge, born October 26th, 1696, died 1769, aged 73 years." The rest of the stones have only initials and dates, as follows: I. A. H. T., 1766; S. B. H., 1747; C. H., 1790; I. F. M., 1763; A. D., 1758; E. H., 1788; M. L., F. M. and K. M. Some trees have sunk in the ground that only the top can be seen, others above the surface are only rude stones without anything on. The place is about a quarter of a mile south from the church. The place has been cleared of all trees and bushes, except, if my memory is correct, a few trees along the fence.

Nothing can be more appropriate than the expression of a few stanzas from Gray's Elegy, written on a Country Churchyard:

Beneath those rugged elms, that yew tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap,
Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to lisp their sire's return,
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

Oft did the harvest to their sickles yield,
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke;
How jocund did they drive their team afield!
How bow'd the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands, that the rod of empire might have sway'd
Or wak'd to ecstasy the living lyre.

ULI HUNSBERGER

About 20 years elapsed and we find that Sebastian Benner, Sr., has died, "and being so thereof seized died intestate, leaving children, Christian Benner, Abraham Benner, Isaac Benner, Catharine, widow of Samuel Funk, deceased, Jacob Benner, Sebastian Benner, John Benner and Mary Benner." These four last were not on age at the time of the first settlement, September 30, 1774, when the second son, Abraham, had the farm transferred to him. But on, December 9, 1782, those four children who were under age in 1774 signed the release of their brother, Abraham, when he paid out their shares.

Christian, the oldest son, received two shares, as the custom then was, he received two undivided ninth parts thereof. So the estate was

divided into nine shares, and while Christian received two shares, each of the other children received one.

The widow, Ann Benner, had already married the second time and claimed her dower, amounting to £65, 14s, 9p. This was paid out by the son Abraham and was released by the mother, who married Jacob Funk, formerly of Franconia, but now of Cheltenham. The release was signed by the stepfather on October 31, 1774.

Ten years later, November 1, 1784, Abraham Benner and wife Sophia sold 64 acres, the same as now owned by George Delp, to his brother Sebastian. At that time it was bounded by lands of John Hackman, Jacob Benner, Isaac Benner, and on the northwest by land of George Stump, deceased. Those 64 acres with buildings and improvements were part of 150 acres mentioned in previous deeds. On August 13, 1791, Mr. Benner purchased yet ten acres adjacent from Henry Sauter and wife, Ann, who then owned the other part of the tract, and on August 30, 1828, 70 acres of the aforesaid land was conveyed to his son Isaac by the heirs of the estate, who were the widow Catharine; Abraham Benner, of Hilltown, and Elizabeth his wife; Samuel Funk, of Hilltown, and wife Edith; Garret Benner, of Hilltown, and wife Ann; Jacob Benner, of Gwynedd township, and wife Elizabeth; Henry Fretz, of Hilltown, and wife Catharine, and John Benner, of Franconia. The farm was purchased for \$2352.38, of which one-third, or \$906.66, was the widow's dower and remained in the farm at that time. Isaac Benner owned this farm 24 years, but after his death in 1862 it was sold to George Delp, the present owner. This farm was in the Benner family 209 years, and no one need wonder where all the Benners come from.

On August 13, 1828, the land was surveyed by Jacob Cassel, surveyor, of Montgomery township. By that time Henry Sauter was dead and the roads that now divide the lands were not opened yet, but we see by the draft made by Mr. Cassel that the 10-acre tract purchased from Mr. Souder, laid on the northwest side of the road in front of Benjamin Krupp's land. And the land on the northeast side of the road, now belonging to Samuel Hackman, and the Yoder farm above, all belonging to the Yoder family. At the upper end it belonged to John Yoder, farther down to Isaac Yoder, and down about the Hackman residence to Henry Yoder.

By referring back we find that Isaac Benner and wife, Catharine, granted to Christian Souder 100 acres in three tracts of 50, 48 and 4 acres, May 3, 1785, and Christian Souder and wife, Mary granted to Henry Souder the same 100 acres August 11, 1791. John Souder, son of Henry Souder, built the first house on the farm now belonging to Samuel Hackman.

The Yoder farm contains about 54 acres and it is claimed that John Yoder, father of the late Reuben Yoder, was a son-in-law of the aforementioned Henry Souder. At any rate the farm descended from

Henry Souder to John Yoder and from him to his son, the late Reuben Yoder.

By referring back to the sale of Uli Hunsberger to Sabastian Benner, in 1753, it will be seen by the bearings of the adjacent land holders that Sabastian Benner owned the land on the northeast side, and consequently after making this purchase he owned those two contiguous plantations, containing together about 400 acres. By other boundaries we see that he also owned the Daniel Umstead farm about the same time.

The farm of George W. Delp, in Franconia, belonged to the Benner family 109 years. It was purchased by Mr. Delp in 1862. The farm on the northeast side, now owned by Samuel Hackman, and the Yoder farm farther up, and probably other land, belonged to the original tract of 200 acres. The farm dates back to 1726, when it was purchased by Uli Hunsberger, a Mennonite, who fled from persecution in his native land. He also became one of the first members of the Mennonite church, in Lower Salford, when it was organized in 1738. The name of Uli Hunsberger also appears in the list of taxables for 150 acres in 1734.

The line between Messrs. Delp and Alderfer is still the same as it was from the beginning, unless perhaps shortened at the upper end. The original line was 200 perches in length and the width of the tract 160 perches, and the land of course was heavily timbered. The conveyance granted by Henry Pastorius and wife, Sarah, of Germantown, to "Uli Hundesperger" is dated May 30, 1726, and in the 12th year of the reign of King George over Great Britain. And the land is described as "lying and being between the branches of the Skipack and Perkiomie." By this conveyance it appears that on September 3, 1717, 893 acres of land were granted to Francis Daniel Pastorius by the commissioners of property, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and James Logan, and that this is recorded in the Rolls Office, Philadelphia, in Patent Book A., Vol. 5, page 250. It also appears that Francis Daniel Pastorius, of Germantown, by his will dated December 26, 1719, gave and bequeathed to his youngest son, Henry Pastorius, 300 acres of land as part of the 893 acres recorded. And on May 30, 1726, Henry Pastorius sold 200 acres as part of the said 300, and is thus described: Beginning at a corner of James Dickison's land (on the east side) N. W. by land of Lenart Cristler 200 perches to a post, then by land of Cunrad Althans 160 perches to a post, then S. E. by said Althans' land 200 perches to a post in the line of the said Dickison's land, then N. E. by said line 160 perches to the place of beginning. The said conveyance was witnessed by Cunrad Althans and Johannes Kempfer. The above conveyance of Henry Pastorius and wife was not acknowledged until after their death by the affirmation of Christian Lehman before Samuel Ashmead, Esq., June 20, 1759, and was recorded in Norristown February 23, 1788, in Deed Book No. 3, page 478. Uli Hunsberger owned the said large tract of land 27 years, for which he paid £147, but on November 26, 1728, he and his wife, Catharine, granted to their son,

Jacob Hunsberger, a long narrow strip of land along the northeast side, containing 50 acres, being part of 200 acres. Jacob Hunsberger and wife, Susanna, eight years afterward sold the same to Leonard Cristler.

The second conveyance belonging to this farm was made May 3, 1753: "In the twenty-sixth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith. Between Ulie Huntsberger of Franconia township, county of Philadelphia, and Catharine his wife of the one part, and Sabastian Benner of Frankonia township, county aforesaid, of the other part." The boundaries are given as follows: Beginning at a post in the line of James Dickison's land and extending thence by other land of said Sabastian Benner N. W. 200 perches to a post, thence by land of Conrad Althouse S. W. 120 perches to a post, then by Conrad Althouse's land again, S. E. 200 perches to another post, then by James Dickinson's land 120 perches N. E. to the place of beginning, containing 150 acres, being part of 200 acres.

This deed to Sabastian Benner is signed Uly Hunschberger and Catharine Hunschbergerin. The witnesses were Jacob Hackmann and Heinrich Klemer. All these names were written in German by Jacob Hackman, for he was the only one who could write.

That the tract of 50 acres sold to their son, Jacob Hunsberger, November 26, 1728, was a long narrow strip, is proven by the bearings, as follows: Beginning at a post, a corner of James Dickinson's land, then northwest by land of Leonard Cristler 200 perches to a post, then southwest by land of Conrad Althouse 40 perches to a post, then southeast by Uli Hunsberger's land 200 perches to a post in the line of said James Dickinson's land, then by the same northeast 40 perches to the place of beginning, containing 50 acres. Jacob Hunsberger and wife, Susanna, conveyed the same to his neighbor, Leonard Cristler, April 8, 1736. And Leonard Cristler, Jr., and wife sold 46 acres thereof to Sebastian Benner, March 26, 1747.

HENRY FUNK

There is a tradition handed down to the present time that Henry Funk was the first settler in Franconia. This may be true to a very small extent, probably a few months. For in the first place we find that Henry Funk was a resident of Germantown and that a warrant was granted to him by commissioners of property, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and James Logan, bearing date December 20, 1718, and by virtue and in pursuance of said warrant. "There was surveyed to him a certain tract of land situated on a branch of the Perkiomen creek," containing 101 acres and three quarters with allowance of 6 per cent. for roads and highways, being in all about 108 acres. For this tract he paid £20 in lawful money and the annual quitrent of one shilling sterling per 100 acres on the first day of the first month (March), and for this tract he received a patent bearing date December 20, 1733.

We also state that the traditional story of Christian Funk, saying that his father settled five miles from his nearest neighbor, is not true, because Christian Funk's grandfather, Christian Moyer, lived on the Moyer farm above Harleysville two years before Henry Funk was in Franconia, only about a mile distant.

On the 1st of September, 1718, a warrant was granted to James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia, for 1000 acres "on the eastern branch of the Perkeawming creek," and from him, Henry Funk purchased two adjacent tracts; one of them on the southeast of his other tract, the whole length thereof containing 53 acres, for which he paid £10 and received a conveyance dated December 24, 1718, which is witnessed by Jacob Taylor, surveyor, and Lydia Bolton.

The other tract, containing forty acres, for which he also paid £10, was granted November 14, 1729. These several tracts put together made him a plantation of 201 acres on the Indian Creek.

In the first place it appears he was especially intent on having a millrite and had a tract of 166 perches long on both sides of the Indian Creek and 104 perches wide, taking in the meadow land cut out for the purpose. Then there was yet a strip of land containing 53 acres between him and his neighbor, Samuel Moyer, which he also bought. The other tract of forty acres was probably on the southwest side, between the other land and the line of Lower Salford, and is now included in the late Musselman farm. The name of Henry Funk appears in the list of taxables in 1734.

His farm was bounded on the southwest side by the line of Lower Salford, on the northwest by land of Jacob Landis, on the northeast by land of Jacob Oberholtzer and on the southeast by land of Samuel Moyer.

Bishop Henry Funk was married to Anna, daughter of Christian Moyer, of Lower Salford, and they had ten children, named: John, Henry, Christian, Abraham, Barbara, Anna, Mary, Fronica, Elizabeth, and Esther, who was an invalid.

Besides his plantation on the Indian Creek, at the time of his death, he owned a tract of 166 acres at what is now Blooming Glen, which became the farms of his two sons, John and Henry, for a short time. The graveyard belonging to the Mennonite congregation at Blooming Glen, is on the said land, and the residence of John or Henry Funk is west from the said church a short distance only. But soon after the death of their father they sold their plantation for £400.

Bishop Henry Funk also owned a plantation of 200 acres with improvements in Hatfield township, along the County Line, at Unionville, on which his son-in-law, Jacob Baer resided.

The following is taken from Edward Mathew's History of the **Rosenberger family***, page 16: "Funk continued the owner till his death. In

*Published in Harleysville, in 1892, a rare book; a fine copy in the Roy C. Kulp collection.

pursuance of his will his sons, John and Christian, conveyed the same to Jacob Baer, his son-in-law, in 1761. So Funk may be regarded as the first one who improved the land and he held it for twenty-three years.

In 1763 Jacob Baer sold it to John Yellis, of Towamencin. Now arose trouble about the title. Yellis became informed that the conveyance of Henry Funk might prove insufficient, because Funk who was a German, had never taken out naturalization papers and had always remained an alien. Jacob Baer had also refused to be naturalized. So to remedy this defect Yellis procured a patent from the proprietary government at the hands of James Hamilton. This was done in 1763 and in the same year he sold the whole to George Kriebel, of Upper Milford. Finally in 1769 Kriebel sold the 200 acres to Daniel Rosenberger. At what time or in what year the first mill was built is not known, but it is known that Abraham Funk was the miller and Christian was the farmer. Bishop Henry Funk divided his large plantation into two farms. His residence with 137 acres and 146 perches were granted to his son Christian, while the mill and 631 acres and 19 perches of land with buildings and improvements and water rights were granted to his son Abraham. John Funk was a smith by trade and also a farmer, his residence was in Bedminister township. He was married to Esther Schlichter of Franconia."

D. K. Cassel in his **History of the Mennonites**, page 341, says: "Abraham Funk, a son of Heinrich Funk and brother of Christian Funk, of Indian Creek, moved to Springfield township, Bucks County, Pa., and built the mill in Springtown, known as Funk's mill from that day to the present. Abraham Funk had a son named John Funk, who then moved from Springtown to near Dublin, Bucks county, Pa., about the year 1800, and died, there when about forty-eight years of age. He then had a son named Jacob Funk, who also lived in Hilltown township, Bucks county, Pa., the greater part of his life, and died in Line Lexington in 1875, and was the father of minister John F. Funk, of Elkhart, Indiana, who was called to the ministry in the Mennonite church in the Spring of 1865. He is also the President of the Mennonite Publishing Company at Elkhart, Indiana, and editor of the Herald of Truth, published in the interest of the old Mennonite church.

Since we happen to have a few notes taken from the records of the above mentioned John Funk farm, situated about a mile southeast of Dublin, on the southwest side of the Dublin and Doylestown turnpike, we will cheerfully add what we know about it.

The said John Funk died in the beginning of the year 1821, leaving a widow, Esther O. Funk, and eleven children of whom seven were yet in their minority. Their names were: Samuel, Abraham, John, Jacob, Ann, wife of Jacob Geil; Susanna, Fanny, Sarah, Henry W., Edith and Esther. Letter of administration on his estate were granted to Abraham Wismer and John Michener, who sold the farm of John Trimby, November 23, 1822. Application for an order of sale was made May 28, 1821, order of sale was granted November 26, 1821.

Henry Funk was a Mennonite minister and bishop, who preached in their house of worship in Lower Salford. It is not known when the first meeting house in Franconia was built, but it evidently was not built before 1760.

Rev. Funk was well educated for those times, he and his collaborer, Dielman Kolb were appointed by the church to supervise the translation of "The Bloody Theatre, or Martyr's Mirror," a large work in the Dutch language, by Wielman Jans Van Bracht, into the pure German language, which work was completed and published in Ephrata in 1748. Besides this, Rev. Funk was the author of two religious works of his own. The first was a small book entitled "Spiegel der taufe, or Mirror of Baptism," and the other a larger work was entitled, "Eine Restitution, oder eine erkläerung einiger hauptpunkten des gesetzes." This last work was published after his death, and two editions have been published in 1844 and 1862.

Rev. Funk was a man of much experience and wide influence as well as the owner of much property. His wife died in 1758, and after that he felt his bereavement very much. He then wrote his will himself in the German language about a year before he died. His death occurred in 1760, and he was undoubtedly buried beside his wife in Delp's burial ground, where the early Moyers were buried, and this burial place was at that time denominated the "Mennonist burial grounds." It seems probable that some of the members of the Mennonite church, especially those in Franconia, wanted the meetinghouse, before it was built in Salford, to be built over at the Delp's, at that time Moyer's graveyard. The little meeting house that is standing there now is a building of recent date. Back in 1850 it stood on the northwest side of the turnpike ten or twelve perches west of the gate of Lower Salford and was used for a schoolhouse, but in 1855 it was taken down, removed and rebuilt by the community, where it is for the accomodation of funerals.

CHRISTIAN FUNK

After the death of Henry Funk, his son, Christian Funk, was the owner of the farm, and his brother Abraham had the mill, as already stated.

Titles to the property were granted by the executors in accordance with the father's will. John and Henry received the farm in Perkasio, as the country was then called. We will, however, append a copy of the will to the end of this sketch, because it contains much information.

The mill and messuage and farm of 63 acres, confirmed to Abraham Funk, for some cause or other, was owned by him only three years, for on March 28, 1763, he and his wife Mary conveyed the same to his brother, Christian Funk, for £800 lawful money. We now find all this property again belonging to one man. Christian Funk married Barbara Cassel in 1757. He was born in 1731, and died May 31, 1811, in his 80th year.

His wife Barbara died December 29, 1792, and they are both buried in Delp's graveyard, near their home. They had nine children, whose names were: Anna, Elizabeth, Mary, Catharine, Barbara, Sarah, John, Abraham, Susanna.

Christian Funk was called to the ministry in the Mennonite church soon after he was married, and served in his official capacity quite successfully until the Revolutionary War broke out, when he was found to be more liberally minded toward the Revolutionists than his colaborers in the church. Under these circumstances it was natural that jealousies should arise against him and fears be entertained by other officials and members that he might lead the church into trouble or cause the members to sacrifice their non-resistant principles, for ignorant people are generally of a jealous turn of mind. Difficulties, however, arose and Rev. Funk was put under the ban and was never restored to the church. The trouble at first was in regard to the attest, or oath of allegiance to Congress, and the payment of revenues which the government demanded, which brought matters into collision in the church. Rev. Funk with a party of members held that they could take the attest and pay the money demanded without sacrificing any principle; the others held that by paying the money they would be patronizing the war, which they claimed was wrong. Rev. Funk himself, says in his *Mirror*: "How easily we might have gone through this war. But no, the Congress and American government was rejected as rebellious, and the King acknowledged by my fellow ministers, under the idea that Congress would soon be overpowered. The war, however, constantly increased and mutual abuse between those who were favorable with Congress and those inclined toward the King manifested itself and discontent was almost universal." Rev. Funk was not an ignorant man, for he was well read and well acquainted with the affairs of the country and exposed the cause of the American Congress as the most reasonable side of the question. Again he says: "Having received the Constitution of Pennsylvania, I saw that the State of Pennsylvania guaranteed to all religious societies, liberty of conscience in worshiping the Almighty God according to their own convictions, that no man was compelled to bear arms, or take oath against his conscience, and it caused much reflections in me that we should despise the government that offered us the like liberty, which William Penn had guaranteed to our fathers in Europe."

When, however, numerous efforts had been made to be reconciled to the church with his faction of adherents, and all hope seemed to be lost, he gathered up his letters and statement of his troubles and had them published in the year 1809, two years before his death. The pamphlet is called, "**A Mirror.**" It was published in German and in English. It does, however, appear that he commenced to write his pamphlet several years earlier, for in the commencement, he says: "I Christian Funk, in the 76th year of my age, make known to all those who seek after God, and are still concerned for the truth." Here he evidently means the truth in regard to the cause of his ex-communication.

In his pamphlet or **Mirror** on page five, he says: "My father, Henry Funk, arrived from Europe in the year 1719, and settled himself at the Indian Creek, or Field, about the distance of five miles from his nearest neighbor. * * * A number of his brethren also came from Europe, and having considerably increased, formed a congregation of which he was chosen minister. * * * A.D. 1760 my father died, and Christian Meyer, his uncle, was the established elder of the society." What he says in the first place about his father settling five miles from his nearest neighbor is not correct, because the titles show that both his neighbors, Samuel Moyer, and Jacob Overholtzer, settled there in the same year, 1719. Besides his grandfather, Christian Moyer, who lived a mile and a half southwest, where Lewis Moyer now lives, above Harleysville, was there before 1719. A warrant for the survey of his land was granted in 1717.

In his **Mirror** Rev. Funk names the congregations and the ministers belonging thereto, Franconia and Indianfield.

The Indian Creek valley has been very prolific in producing Mennonite ministers. Contemporaneous with Christian Funk were Jacob Oberholtzer and Henry Rosenberger, who both lived on the Indian Creek, between Funks and the meetinghouse, and Jacob Funk, who lived near there. Then came Jacob Godshall, who lived further back near Morwood, and more recently, Henry Nice, whose residence was near the Indian Creek.

After the death of Christian Funk, his followers built three or more meetinghouses, one of which was in Towamencin, and John Reiff was the minister there; one at Evansburg, where Henry Gotwals was the minister, one in Moyer's woods, from whence it was removed to Delp's graveyard in 1855, as already stated. Besides there were several more ministers, but about the year 1820, John Herr, of Lancaster county, brought his heresies among them, pretending to reform them, captured some and scattered others, so that the Funkite branch of the Mennonite church ceased soon after, or was transformed into Herrites.

The way Rev. Funk tells us he was treated very disrespectfully, and his book is well endorsed by men who are known to have been men of veracity and in good standing. The preface is signed by Henry Rosenberger, John Funk, John Reiff, Henry Gotwals, John Whisler, Christian Gottwals, Jacob Whisler, John Gotwals, George Schumacher.

"Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn," and it is because people do not do unto others as they would have others do to them. This often comes home to people professing religion when self-interest or vain glory are at stake. How can the love of God dwell in those people who do not love each other?

In the time of the Revolutionary War many delicate and perplexing questions grew out of the position of the large number of non-residents in the community. A very curious one was handled

in a judicious and diplomatic way by Colonel Hiester* in the following letter, says Henry S. Dotterer, in his **Perkiomen Region**, volume 1, page 125:

LETTER TO DR. JOSEPH GARDNER,
MEMBER OF COUNCIL,
SKIPPACK TWP.

October 4, 1781.

SIR:—The bearer hereof, Mr. Henry Funk, is going to Council with a Complaint respecting a Demand of Substitute Fines made on him by Frederick Limbach, Esq., one of the Sub-Lients of Northampton county. The complaint, I confess, appears to me of a new Kind and Mr. Funck states it thus, that he (Mr. Funk) is a preacher and has been so for many years among the people called Mennonists, but having taken the test of the State, and done a great deal of Business for the publick in the purchasing and milling way, was read out of that society; and as he is not now acknowledged a preacher by the body of the society, Mr. Limback says he can not consider himself such, and consequently Fines him for neglect of duty in the militia, altho' he favors many non-jurer preachers of the same people. Mr. Funck can inform you more particularly of the circumstances, but this I know that he and his brother Christian Funck (a remarkably strong whig) are preaching to a few well affected of that society; that he is a man of good character, so think there is no reason of reading him cut of the society, but his attachment to the cause of his country, and that he has done much publick Business. Upon the whole, I think it a new Doctrine that a man sho'd be unprivileged because he is disowned by a people for his complying with the Laws of the country, and beg you will be Kind enough, if you find the complaint reasonable to see him justice done as far as possible.

I am, with real esteem, Sir,

Yours very w'll,

Daniel Hiester, Jr.

The children of Christian Funk, as already stated, were Anna, who married David Rosenberger, and their children were Christian, David, Philip, Abraham, Mary, Elizabeth, Ann and Daniel.

Elizabeth Funk married Henry Gotwals. They had children: John, Henry, Joseph, Abraham, Adam, Christian, Jacob, Barbara, Mary, and Elizabeth.

Mary Funk married a Rynard, but nothing further is known of them.

Catharine Funk married John Detweiler. He was a farmer and a miller. She was born January 12, 1759, and died May 12, 1808.

*Born in 1747 at Sumneytown, appointed Colonel in 1777, promoted to General in 1782, elected to Congress in 1788, died in 1804 in Washington, D. C., buried in Hagerstown, Md.

They had children: Susanna; Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, Sarah, John, Christian, Catharine, Abraham and Daniel.

Barbara Funk married John Reiff. He was a farmer and miller. She was born January 22, 1760, and died July 27, 1798.

John Reiff lived in Lower Salford, where he had a farm and mill. They had five children: John, Jacob, Elizabeth, Catharine and Mary.

Sarah Funk married a Brodt, and nothing further is known of them.

John Funk was a farmer and minister. He had children: Abraham, Magdalena, John, and Catharine. Rev. Henry R. Funk, a Methodist Episcopal clergyman of Philadelphia, is a descendant of this family.

Abraham Funk left no account of himself that is known.

Susanna Funk married a Detwiler, but we have no further account of them.

When Christian Funk grew old and wished to retire he sold his farm and mill to his son-in-law, John Detweiler, who owned the property until some time after the death of his wife Catharine, and in later years built the messuage and premises on the northern part of his farm (now the property of Samuel D. Moyer) and moved there. He married for his second wife Elizabeth, widow of John Horning. She died October 16, 1824. John, or Honnes Detweiler, as he was generally called, was born January 8, 1747, and died July 1, 1826. At the time of his death John Detweiler also owned the 107 acre farm now the property of Edwin Nice, of Franconia. This property was then sold by the heirs to Jacob Detweiler, father of Tyson Detweiler, for \$2972.22 and 2 mills. The children of John Detweiler were: Susanna, Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, Sarah, John, Christian, Catharine, Abraham and Daniel.

Some time after the death of his first wife, John Detweiler sold his farm and mill to his son, Abraham Detweiler, who held it until the time of his death, December 10, 1830. He was married to Mary Hunsicker and left ten children, who were Elizabeth, wife of George C. Reiff; Catharine, wife of John Price; John, William and Isaac Detweiler; Hannah, wife of William H. Price; Mary Ann, Abraham, Daniel and Benjamin Detweiler.

Besides the large plantation and mill Abraham Detweiler owned a large tract of woodland disconnected from his other land. Letters of administration on his estate were granted to the widow (Mary Detweiler) Christian Detweiler and John Hunsicker, and the estate settled in 1834. The farm was divided, and the premises in the north part, built by John Detweiler, with about 40 acres, was sold to Henry Hunsicker. It was afterward, owned by Jacob Kratz for many years. It is now owned by Samuel D. Moyer. The mill and farm were purchased by William Horning, who owned it about ten years, but sold it to Christian Young, of Saucon Valley, about the year 1845. With him

came several families of Musselmans. Henry Musselman, a son-in-law, built the premises now owned by Oliver H. Blank. The farm was held in the Musselman family until about 1898.

If I am not mistaken the mill was burned away several times, but was always rebuilt. There was also a clover mill there that I recollect of seeing. There I saw the first stationary threshing machine in the barn, when William Horning lived there. They were the first kind of threshers.

After Christian Young the place had a number of owners unto the present time, and the mill was disconnected from the farm. Among those who lived there were Jacob H. Landes, miller; Samuel Eisenberg, Charles Godshall, John Kulp, Eli Bechtel, Musselman and others. The present owner is John N. Clemens. In later years an engine and steam works were added to the mill.

JOHN FRY

Henry Pastorius and wife Sarah, of Philadelphia, granted to John Fry 150 acres of land on the Indian Creek, November 14, 1723. Mr. Fry came here to stay and his name appears among the taxables of 1734. After 40 years, about a year before he died, he and his wife Mary sold the same 150-acre plantation to Henry Freed of Franconia, for £553, May 20, 1764. The boundaries of the farm are given as follows: Beginning at a corner of George Wambold's land, then by the same N. E. 115 perches to a post, a corner of John Weidner's land, then by the same land and land of Jonathan Fry S. E. 166½ perches to a stone, a corner of the said John Fry's land, then by the same S. W. 32 perches to a stone, a corner, then N. W. 72 perches to a stone, a corner, and S. W. 66 perches to a small hickory three in a line of Henry Rosenberger's land, then by the same to Jacob Funk's land N. W. 107½ perches to the place of beginning, containing 150 acres. It appears by these recitals that John Fry had also other land and probably a son Jonathan, John Fry, or Frey denoting free, died in 1765, and is buried at the Mennonite meetinghouse in Franconia.

According to the researches of Edward Mathews, a noted local historian of Lansdale, made over 20 years ago, many of the Fry's in Lansdale and all those in Montgomery township are descendants of this Franconia family. Speaking of a younger John Fry, a bachelor now deceased, in Montgomery township, he says: "John Fry, Sr., lived to reach more than four score years, dying in 1746, at the advanced age of 84. He was born in 1662, and was the son of William Fry, the first of the name in Montgomery township. The latter had been born about 1724, and been reared near the Indian Creek, in Franconia. He also lived to reach an advanced age, dying about 1811, at the age of 87. The Fry's of Montgomery township are widely known as tailors. As is well known the Fry's were of German extraction, as one of the original spellings of the name was Frey. * * * They were not, of course, among the original settlers of Montgomery township, as William Fry, son of the emigrant, came down from Fran-

conia and bought a small farm there of one of the original Welsh families at a date probably between 1750 and 1760. This was purchased of Thomas Bates, who sold him 58 acres, lying on the northeast side of the Cowpath (or Horsham) Road.

"Concerning the wife of William Fry, tradition tells a romantic story, but only similar to that which not unfrequently happened to the early emigrants. She was born in Europe, and was of the name of Kerr. When small her parents essayed to cross the Atlantic to find a new home in America, but death crossed their path, and the little girl tearfully saw their bodies deposited in the great deep. The orphaned child was landed in Philadelphia, with no friends to greet her arrival or guide her footsteps. But fortunately the good hearted Captain of the vessel, seeing the desolation of the little maiden, befriended her when she needed a helping hand. What to do with her he did not know, but taking her by the hand he walked up the streets of the strange city, meeting a farmer whom he knew by his appearance to be one of her countrymen, and able to speak the only language his little protege knew, he told him of the situation. The name of the farmer was Conrad Dettra, who lived where Telford now stands, and pitying the forlorn child, said she should go along with him home, away over the hills to Indian Creek, and he would bring her up in his own household. Thither she went, and the girl grew apace to be a woman, and became afterwards the wife of William Fry, and the mother of a numerous posterity.

"In this history it only remains to say that John Fry, Sr., formed an alliance with a notable Welsh family of Hilltown, marrying a daughter of Edward Jones, and from whom many of the mental traits of the present family are derived. The ancestry on the maternal side may be traced through the Jones, Lewis and James families of New Britain and Hilltown. Mary Fry, wife of John Fry, Sr., was the daughter of Edward Jones, a prominent man in Hilltown during the Revolution; grand-daughter of Henry Lewis, who built the first tavern at Chalfont, and who was the son-in-law of William James, who came from Wales, and was one of the founders of Montgomery Baptist church in 1719."

The farm of John Fry belonged to Henry Freed 11 years, until he drifted up to Lower Milford, and in the meantime had sold off 63 acres. Consequently Henry Freed and wife Barbara conveyed yet 87 acres and 30 perches to Christian Souder, of Franconia, May 23, 1775, but nine years later, June 5, 1784, Christian Souder and wife Mary conveyed the same plantation of 87 acres with improvements to Daniel Wampole, of Franconia, being part of 150 acres, bounded by lands of the late George Wampole and the late John Weidner, John Cressman, Frederick Wample, the late Henry Rosenberger and Andrew Haines. The foregoing Henry Freed was probably a son of John Freed, of Upper Salford, and Jacob Freed, who was a witness to the deed, was probably his brother. Daniel Wampole owned this farm 16 years, and in this time reduced it 14 acres, leaving a farm of 73 acres, which Mr. Wampole and wife conveyed to Jacob Sechler, May 3, 1900. By

this time the farm had a very irregular shape, as shown by a draft of that date. At that time Christian Rosenberger and Andrew Haines were on the southwest side. After a period of 12 years Jacob Seckler and wife Magdalene sold 70 acres and 40 perches to Henry Bergey, of the same township, April 1, 1812, but did not live to get old, dying about 1827, before some of the children were on age, but Isaac, the oldest son being of age, took the farm in hand as decided and agreed to by all parties interested, January 23, 1828. The children were Isaac; Mary, wife of Joseph Fretz; Sarah, Catharine, Henry, Daniel, Susanna and Elizabeth. Isaac Bergey was succeeded by his son, the late Abraham Bergey, who owned the farm until recently.

That 63-acre tract, which Henry Freed and wife sold off before 1775, apparently was woodland, lying along the Allentown Road down toward Franconia Square, and partly belongs to the farm of Daniel Detweiler, which in 1850 belonged to William Ziegler, and in 1820 was sold to Henry Ziegler by John Weber, a land speculator of Towamencin. Henry Ziegler probably built the first house there.

John Swartley's lot of eight acres, at the corner of the Allentown Road and the Indian Creek, is taken from the Fry farm, and is the same eight-acre lot which Henry Bergey bought off Samuel Moyer and wife Elizabeth, June 15, 1812, and is part of the 21-acre tract which Daniel Wampole and wife sold May 3, 1800.

JACOB LANDES

Henry Funk was surrounded by his brethren of the Mennonite faith, for this was a Mennonite community, as it is to this day. Jacob Landes, who settled here in 1727, was also a member of said church. I shall not be able to give my readers much of an early history of Jacob Landes, the pioneer, for he had a son Jacob, and the names of father and son being the same we cannot always distinguish which it was, besides it appears he had other sons and grandsons — some in Franconia and some in Upper Salford.

Jacob Landes*, the pioneer, came to Franconia in 1727, when he purchased from Derick Johnson, of Germantown, a tract of land on the Indian Creek containing 187 acres, by lease and release, dated December 26 and 27, 1727. An abstract of titles shows that the land had gone through the hands of several speculators who never saw it. In the first place the Hon. William Penn, proprietor of the Province, sold to Thomas Parkhurst, stationer, of the city of London, 500 acres, unsurveyed, in the Province of Pennsylvania, by lease and release, dated March 22 and 23, 1685. After owning this unoccupied land on the other side of the ocean 24 years Mr. Parkhurst sold those 500 acres which his deed called for to Samuel Bury, of St. Edmundsbury, in the county of Suffolk, England, by lease and release, dated August 2 and 3, 1709. After owning this land 9 years Mr. Bury sold the same to

*See "Descendants of Jacob Landis," by Henry S. Landes, Souderton, 1943.

John Head, of the city of Philadelphia, by lease and release, dated October 9 and 10, 1718. And the next year John Head and wife Rebecca sold the same to Derick Johnson, of Germantown, by lease and release, dated July 21 and 22, 1719. On the 28th of August following a warrant was granted for the survey and location of that land.

It will be difficult to give all the particulars of the different purchases made by the father and son of the same name. But if my readers will follow me we will take a view of the land owned by Jacob Landes, the older and miller, so far as is known. Beginning at the southern corner of Nathaniel Landes' farm on the township line and following the said line up to the road near the Branch Creek, then making a little jog in the line you cross the creek and take in the farm of Ephraim Moyer of 67 acres as part of the land at one time owned by Jacob Landes; then turn back to the place of beginning and go northeast along the line of Henry Funk's land 119 perches to a corner of Frederick Sholl's land, then northwest along the same to a corner of the road, then follow the road northeast till on the northeast side of Morwood, then back to the Branch Creek, and then down on the other side to take in Ephraim Moyer's farm and you have some idea of the land that belonged to the early Landes family. It is also certain that later on some of the Landes family had farms in Upper Salford, for it is not a quarter of a century since the Rev. Jacob Landes was a life long resident of Upper Salford.

In the year 1734 Jacob Landes received a patent from the proprietary government for a tract of land containing 150 acres just northwest of Morwood. About 40 years ago a large part of the land was owned by William P. Benner. It was probably with the intention of building a mill on this land that Jacob Landes bought it. There is a tradition still lingering around the lower mill, long known as Nice's, and later as Koffel's mill, that the first mill had been built farther up the stream, but was only temporary. Godshall's mill near there is not old yet. It is said Henry Nice first built a sawmill and clovermill at that place about the year 1840. Then it came into the hands of Samuel and William Godshall, who built a chopping mill about the year 1845, and about 5 years later, 1850, they built a gristmill and took down the clovermill. About the same time Tobias Nice built a clovermill farther down, where Joseph Fretz lived, which was afterward changed to a chopping mill, but it was of short duration, for it has all been cleaned away. We have no date when the lower mill, long known as Nice's, was built, but know that it was built by Jacob Landes. The land, containing 113 acres, belonging to the farm with massuage, gristmill, dam, mill race, water right, ponds and everything belonging thereto were granted to their son, Jacob Landes by Jacob Landes, Sr., and wife Mary, December 28, 1772, under the yearly quitrent of one-half penny sterling for every acre of the same as granted by the original proprietor. Then, on March 30, 1784, Jacob Landes and wife Gertrude conveyed the farm of 101 acres and mill, as above described, to Abraham Nice, who was married to Magdalene Landes. Twenty years later, April 2, 1804, Abraham Nice and wife Magdalene con-

veyed this farm and mill to their son, John Nice, who was born January 12, 1778, and died November 22, 1856. He married Catharine R. Price.

John Nice and wife had eight children, namely: Elizabeth, born August 16, 1840, married John Hagey; Catharine, born in 1806, married Henry Shugard; Leana, or Magdalene, born in 1808, married William Jacobs, father of Dr. John N. Jacobs of Lansdale; Abraham Nice, born in 1810, married Mary Price; Ann, born January 22, 1814, married William Haney; John Nice, born December 18, 1816; married Saiome Cressman; Rev. William Nice, born May 17, 1822, married Sarah Hagey; Deborah Nice married John Jamison, of Philadelphia.

We will next add what relates to the Nice families of Franconia township as collected by the late George S. Nice of Frederick.

NICE - NYCE FAMILY

John Nyce, son of John and Mary Nyce, married Catharine Hahn, daughter of Philip Hahn, immigrant, of New Hanover township. They settled on Indian Creek. Issues:

1. Elizabeth Nyce, born March 31, 1748; married (first) John Mark Hartzell; (second), John Wentz; (third) Michael Hartman; died April 29, 1835, buried at the Indian Creek Reformed church.

2. Philip Nyce, born May 10, 1751, married April 28, 1772, Elizabeth Leidy; died at Nockamixon, Bucks county, May 2, 1799.

3. John Nyce, born March 26, 1754; married (first) Catharine Hudt; (second), Margaret Hevener; died March 3, 1826. He is buried at Old Goshenhoppen church.

4. Abraham Nyce, born January 8, 1756; married Magdale Landes; died April 28, 1818. He is buried at Franconia Mennonite meetinghouse. They had 10 children: 1. John Nice, born December 12, 1777; 2. Abraham Nice, born March 9, 1779; 3. Jacob Nice, born August 25, 1781; 4. George Nice, born October 15, 1783; 5. William Nice, born April 4, 1786; 6. Philip Nice, born June 21, 1789; 7. Joseph Nice, born August 5, 1791; 8. Catharine Nice, born september 18, 1794; 9. Tobias Nice, born November 23, 1796; 10. Henry Nice, born March 18, 1804, was a minister in the Mennonite church. The late Rev. William Nice was a son, and Dr. John N. Jacobs, of Lansdale, is a grandson of John Nice (born December 12, 1777). Rev. Henry Nice, of Morristown, Ill., is a son of Philip Nice (boorn June 21, 1789).

John Nyce died in March, 1756. He was a trustee at Indian Creek church. He wrote his name DeNyce. His widow, Catharine (Hahn) Nyce, married George Hartzell. She died in 1815, aged 88 years.

I see there is a difference in the date of the birth of John Nice between what I copied from the headstone at his grave and what George S. Nyce obtained probably from some old Bible. His date is probably correct. The old German way of spelling Neusz (Nice) is the same way as Preusz (Price).

After the marriage of Rev. William Nice the farm belonging to the mill was divided and the messuage and improvements where Isaiah Funk now lives were built for William Nice, where he afterward lived and died.

JACOB LANDES FAMILY

Going back again to the farm of Nathaniel Landis we find an old conveyance dated April 20, 1748, granted by Jacob Landes, the pioneer, and wife Mary to their son, Jacob Landes, the miller, of the same township, for a messuage, tenement and tract of land containing 187 acres. It being the same tract which the former had purchased in 1727, already described, and the bounds being also the same with the general allowance for roads and highways. The two distances northwest being 263 perches, and the two distance southwest 119 perches.

Time passed on, and after many struggles and trials in life Jacob Landes and wife Mary, wishing to relieve themselves of many cares, divided their lands among their children, for on May 24, 1775, they conveyed to their son, John Landes, 82½ acres, with improvements, where Nathaniel Landes now lives, being part of the 187-acre tract. The first houses were nearer the stream.

Then again we find that Jacob Landes and wife Mary conveyed to their son, Henry Landes, of Upper Salford, 80 acres and 152 perches, May 24, 1775. It being part of 187 acres which was granted to them by Derick Johnson in 1727, together also with buildings and improvements.

Again, on June 9, 1787, Jacob Landes conveyed to Henry Landes 22 acres and 62 perches, being part of two tracts. This tract appears to be located up about the smith shop. Again we have also seen that Jacob Landes and his wife Mary conveyed the farm and mill to their son, Jacob Landes, the miller, December 28, 1772.

Then again we find a deed for water right, that whereas Jacob Landes, the father, sold to his son, John Landes, 82½ acres, with improvements, May 24, 1775. The father, on May 24, 1876, purchased from his son John the right to lay a dam and dig a race for a sawmill with full rights and privileges on his son's land. This shows when the sawmill that was there was built. For here where Abraham Landes now lives was the residence of the said Jacob Landes.

We next find that the said Jacob Landes made his last will and testament, dated May 29, 1787, and therein says: "Item—My land and plantation whereon I now dwell, situated in Franconia township aforesaid, joining lands of my son, Henry Landes; George Sholl; my son, John Landes, and Rudolph Harley, containing 65 acres, be the same more or less, with all buildings and improvements, sawmill and whatsoever belongs thereto, all the privilege of dam and race as conveyed to me by indenture of my son John, recorded and dated

May 24, 1786, more fully and at large may appear in the indenture: I do give and devise the same to my son Isaac to have and hold to him and his heirs and assigns forever: I do value the said land with all the buildings and sawmill and what thereto belongs, with the privilege of the dame and race, at £435, in good gold and silver money, as the same passes in value and weight within Pennsylvania. His share and portion shall be reckoned out of the said sum and the residue thereof shall he pay in payments of 15 yearly * * * and the residue of the estate to be shared among my nine children:

"One equal ninth share to my eldest son, Jacob Landes; one equal ninth share to my son, Henry Landes; one equal ninth share to my son Yellis Landes; one equal ninth share to my son, John Landes; one equal ninth share to my son, Isaac Landes; one equal ninth share to my daughter Barbara, one equal ninth share to my daughter Elizabeth; one equal ninth share to my daughter, Catharine; one equal ninth share to the children of my deceased daughter Susanna, to be equally divided among them."

Susanna, deceased, married ——— Bergey, or Barkey, probably John, of Upper Salford, a preacher. The three children were Jacob Barkey, John Barkey and Isaac Barkey.

The will was proven May 13, 1793; book I, page 350. It was signed by Jacob Landes. The witnesses were Rudolph Harley, Jacob Harley and John Barkey, Sr.

I forgot to mention that in the above recited will Henry Landes was appointed executor. Neither do I have any note of the conveyance which he granted to his brother Isaac for the farm and sawmill devised to him.

That this Jacob Landes was in the second generation is quite evident from the fact that the first Jacob Landes sold his large tract of 187 acres to his son, Jacob Landes, in 1748. This son is the one whose will we have just recited. Besides, it appears that the older Jacob Landes had at least one other son somewhere, perhaps on the other side of the Branch Creek, in Upper Salford, because Magdalene Landes, wife of Abraham Nice, was not a daughter of Jacob Landes, whose will we have just recited.

I feel pretty certain that the deceased daughter, Susanna, who left three children, had been the wife of John Bergey, of Upper Salford, a successful farmer, who was assessed in said township for 180 acres of land and a grist and sawmill in 1776. His oldest son, Jacob, was the father of the late Rev. David Bergey, of Lower Salford. John Bergey, or Barkey, the father, who was a witness to the will, was a son of Hans Ulrich Bergey, of Lower Salford, and a brother of Isaac Bergey, or Berkey, of Franconia. John Bergey was also a minister in the Mennonite church, in Franconia, during the Funkite controversy, for his name appears repeatedly in Christian Funk's **Mirror**.

John Landes, who received 82½ acres of land, with buildings and improvements, from his parents, May 24, 1775, where Nathaniel Landes

lives, made his will, dated July 24, 1820, and therein devised his farm to his son, Jacob Landes; but two years previously, in 1818, John Landes sold 6 acres and 104 perches to John Landes, the sawmiller; his father, Isaac Landes, being dead. Jacob Landes owned his farm about 35 years, when he and his wife Sarah sold to their son, Abraham Landes, their plantation containing 116 acres and 107 perches, May 12, 1856, having increased his acres considerably. After the death of Abraham Landes, or perhaps before, the farm was transferred to Nathaniel, the present owner, but I have not the date.

Concerning the farm of Isaac Landes, to whom was devised the farm containing 65 acres and sawmill, my notes are rather deficient, but I note that Isaac Landes made his will April 4, 1814, and after providing well for his wife Catharine appears the following: "Item—I devise and bequeath unto my two sons, John Landes and Henry Landes, my dwelling place and about 77 acres of land, in Franconia township, together also with all and singular the buildings, sawmill and improvements." And further provided, if one or both should die without issue the wife and daughter were to remain; they were to keep house together until the youngest son Henry was of age. Both sons were appointed executors. John Landes, their son, was never married; he was very ingenious in planning and contriving to make things, which he accomplished successfully. Henry Landes had three sons, Abraham K. Landes, the present owner. Michael Shoemaker and Abraham Harley were witnesses to the above will.

Having already mentioned that on May 24, 1775, Jacob Landes and wife Mary transferred to their son Henry Landes, of Upper Salford, a tract of land containing $80\frac{3}{4}$ acres, with improvements, being part of the 187-acre tract at first purchased, and described as follows: Beginning at a stone in a line of Rudolph Harley's land and by the same $45\frac{1}{2}$ perches to a stone, then by the same southwest 4 perches to a stone, and northwest 123 perches to a post, then by Jacob Landes, the younger's land, northeast 74 perches, then by other land of the said Jacob Landes, the elder, southeast 78 perches to a stone, and further by the same courses and distances, to wit: Southeast 4 perches to a post, then by other land of said Jacob Landes, the elder, southeast 31 perches to a post, and southeast 24 perches to a stone, then southwest 36 perches and southwest 32 perches to a post, and southwest $10\frac{1}{2}$ perches to a stone and southwest 17.7 perches to the place of beginning, containing $80\frac{3}{4}$ acres. This shows how it was divided to catch a piece of meadow land.

The other tract, containing 22 acres and 62 perches, being parts of two tracts which Henry Landes purchased from his father, Jacob Landes, for £110, June 9, 1787, was bounded as follows: beginning at a corner of Yelles Landes' land, then by the same and George Sholl's land southeast 110 perches to a stone, a corner of Isaac Landes' land; then by the same a number of courses and distances to a corner of Henry Landes' land and other land; then a number of courses and distances to a stone, a corner in a line of Abraham Nice's land; then

by Yelles land to the place of beginning. I did not write down the many short distances. What remains of the two tracts just mentioned is comprised in the two farms of Abraham Moyer and Henry Landes, blacksmith.

Henry Landes died about the year 1824, and his heirs granted a messuage and 28 acres and 141 perches to his son, John Landes, a stonemason, January 25, 1825.

The heirs of Henry Landes were John Landes, Jacob Moyer and wife Mary, of Upper Salford; Abraham Gerges and wife Elizabeth, of Lower Salford; Abraham Moyer and wife Barbara, of Franconia, and Hannah and Anna Landes, spinsters.

John Landes was married to Mary Shoemaker and had a large family of children. He died intestate in 1856. Letters of administration were granted to his son, John Landes, who sold the homestead, with 28 acres of land, to his brother, Henry Landes, the blacksmith, present owner, April 1, 1857.

Coming back to the farm of Yelles Landes, more recently known as the Freed farm, part of which is now owned by William Oberholtzer, we find that a patent was granted by the proprietary government — John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn — to Johannis Heinrich Schneider in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of King George the Second, over Great Britain, France and Ireland, dated August 23, 1753, for a tract of 126 acres and 149 perches, with allowance of 6 per cent. for roads, etc. Described as follows: Beginning at a tree, a corner of other land, then extending by the same southwest 117 perches to a black oak, then by vacant land northwest 184 perches to a post, then by John Freed's land northeast 117 perches to a small tree, then by vacant land southeast 184 perches to the place of beginning, for which he paid £19,13.6.

John Henry Snyder owned the land already in 1734, as appears by another patent granted to Jacob Landes March 19, 1734, which was bounded by land of John Henry Snyder northwest 240 perches, and by John Freed's land northeast 106 perches, then southwest by land of Francis Gandovit 240 perches, and southwest 106 perches to the place of beginning, containing 150 acres, but in reality 159 acres. This 150 acres was located just northwest of the road leading through Morwood, including part of the land on which Morwood is built. John Henry Snyder moved to Lancaster county at some time and of necessity had to obtain a patent for his land before he could sell it and give a clear title. But after receiving his patent he soon could sell, and a conveyance was made and signed by himself and wife Catharine, of Lancaster county, November 13, 1753, granting to Jacob Landes, Jr., two tracts of land, comprising 255 acres, in Franconia for £400. The larger tract is described as follows: Beginning at a post, a corner of Jacob Landes' (the miller) land, then by the same 184 perches to a post in line of John Fritz's land (Freed's), then by the same northeast 6 perches to a white oak, and by same northwest 22 perches

to a post, a corner of another's land, also called Jacob Landes the younger, or lesser, then by the same northeast 26 perches to a white oak, marked for a corner of John Kendrick's land (Kindig's), then by the same south 40° east 71 perches to a hickory tree, and north 80° east 54 perches to a white oak, and south 47° east 136 perches to a stone in a line of John Nice's land, then by the same southwest 122 perches to the place of beginning, containing 123 acres and 60 perches. The other adjacent tract, containing 82 acres, was situated on the northeast side of the former tract, and was granted and confirmed to Henry Schneider by Hon. John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn by a patent dated August 6, 1739. (I did not copy the boundaries of this tract). He wrote his name Heinrich Schneider, but his wife only made her mark.

We next take a note from David Schultze's journal, of Upper Hanover, where he says he surveyed for Jacob Landes and John Kindich, on the Branch, January 20 and 21, 1752. (Perkiomen Region, Vol. III, p. 1.)

The following bills are taken from the records in Philadelphia:

"3 mo. 18, 1734. Jacob Lundis Rec'd of Andreas Schultz on his account in full 11.8.0."

"May 28, 1740. Jacob Lundus Rec'd of him in part for land in Franconia £10.0.0."

"July 5, 1740. Jacob Lundus, punr. Dr. to 150 a. on a branch of Parkeawing £23.5.0. Rec'd of him in part £7.0.0."

In dividing his land among his children Jacob Landes, Sr., and wife Mary, by a certain indenture dated January 24, 1773, granted to their son, Yelles Landes, several tracts or pieces of land comprising 99 acres and 20 perches; including the allowance it was over 100 acres. One tract containing 82 acres and 40 perches with the usual allowance; the second tract containing 16 acres and 140 perches; the third tract was a remnant of 13 acres, which Jacob Landes, the miller, and wife Gertrude, by their indenture dated July 17, 1782, granted to Yellis Landes. It being part of 113 acres which his father, Jacob Landes, and his mother Mary granted to him in 1772; for which Yelles paid £65. Isaac Landes and wife Catharine, by their indenture dated December 7, 1790, granted to Yelles Landes a tract of 15 acres in Franconia. All these lots and parcels of land combined made 126 acres besides the allowance. And it is understood that some parts thereof at least were woodland, situated along the Branch Creek and over the hill up to the road leading through Morwood. His residence was back near the Branch Creek.

And what did Yelles Landes do after buying up these lots and increasing his acres? Why, he laid down and died intestate, leaving six children, without directing what to do with his plantation. Some of his children had removed to Skippack township, where their descendants still reside. Being Mennonite they intermarried with the

families in said township. They were Jacob Landes and wife Susanna; Henry Landes, of said township, and wife Susanna; Isaac Landes, of said Skippack and Perkiomen township; John Godwaltz, of Upper Salford, and wife Dorothy; Mary Landes and Elizabeth Landes, of Upper Salford, spinsters. The three first mentioned were residents of Skippack, and none of the grandchildren were Yelles, but Elias. These children and heirs sold the farm containing 125 acres and 56 perches, and granted a conveyance to John Overholtzer, dated May 28, 1804. But in less than two years Mr. Oberholtzer and wife Susanna conveyed the same plantation to Jacob Freed, of Franconia, for £1580, March 7, 1806. The latter was probably a grandson of John Freed, who lived on the other side of the Branch Creek already in 1734, or earlier. Jacob Freed had three sons — John, Joseph and Abraham. After John Freed was married they built a house and other buildings up in the field for him where the late Samuel Gehman lived, and cut off some land to his place, but after some years he sold his farm and bought a large farm at Harleysville, April 1, 1841, where he lived until 1864.

Joseph Freed purchased two small adjoining lots from his father, February 4, 1829. One lot contained 15 acres, and the other 4 acres, on which he built those buildings where Cornelious Bergey now lives and kept a store there. But he did not live to be very old. Abraham Freed received the old homestead, but his wife died and he sold it. Afterward he kept a lumber yard in Harleysville, and died there in 1862, in his 57th year. Beside his three sons just mentioned Jacob Freed also had daughters, two of which I recollect, Mrs. Benjamin Harley and Mrs. John Shutt.

HENRY ROSENBERGER

The conveyances of James Steel and wife Martha, of Philadelphia, to John and Julian Stump, Henry Rosenberger and Christian Moyer, bear the same date, November 14, 1729, and all three plantations are from Steel and wife. The conveyance of Henry Rosenberger places Christian Haldeman on the southeast side, adjacent, which is a mistake, for it was Christian Moyer, the ancestor of Abraham Moyer, the present owner.

Henry Rosenberger was the ancestor of all the Rosenbergers known in these parts of the country. He came to Pennsylvania with his family and in 1729 purchased of James Steel and wife Martha a tract of 159 acres on the Indian Creek. Beginning at a corner in a line of Christian Moyer's land, thence by the same northeast 100 perches to a line of Francis Daniel Pastorius; thence by the same northwest 254 perches; thence southwest by a line of marked trees 100 perches, then southeast 254 perches to the place of beginning, containing 159 acres, though the nine acres were allowed for roads and highways, as it was the custom to allow. The name of Henry Rosenberger appears in the tax list of 1734 for 100 acres.

There is also a receipt on hand showing that he paid his quit rent as follows:

"1 mo.13, 1732-3. Rec'd of Henry Rosenberger for 159 as for 15 yrs. in full £3 10 1 11 6."

In 1745 he conveyed his plantation to his son, Henry Rosenberger, Jr., who became quite prominent in the church affairs of the Mennonite denomination in Franconia during the Funkite controversy. He is generally represented as a minister, but Daniel K. Cassel, in his **History of Mennonites**, does not represent him so. He says Rosenberger was a **bestedichter forsteher** (a confirmed deacon), and he was the last confirmed in the Mennonite church.

It was during the time that he owned this farm that the first Mennonite meetinghouse in Franconia was built. He undoubtedly donated a small plot of ground at the corner of his farm for a graveyard, and Christian Moyer, who owned the other corner, donated the ground on which the first meetinghouse was built. It was because each one donated a small lot of land that they have no date nor title to the first lot. Their church records commence July 15, 1765, though the first meetinghouse in Lower Salford was built and the church organized, Ulrich Huntsberger, Heinrich Klemmer, Jacob Hackman, Andrew Swartz, Christian Moyer, Sr., Jacob Landes, Heinrich Funk and others, of Franconia, were united in one church or congregation; and Christian Moyer and Abraham Reiff, of Franconia, were deacons. Dielman Kolb. of Salford, and Heinrich Funk, of Franconia, were ministers. This was left so until March 25, 1763, when the two deacons, Christian Moyer and Abraham Reiff, granted a Declaration of Trust, in the shape of a conveyance, to Christian Funk, minister, and Jacob Clemens*, deacon, of their right and title to the church property in Salford. It was undoubtedly at that time that the congregation in Franconia was separated from the one in Salford.

Tradition represents a log house on the farm of Tyson Detweiler, in which the first Mennonite meetings in Franconia were held. The meetings may have only been occasional and not regular at this place.

Of the family of Henry Rosenberger I know but little, and as I intend to bring several other men to the stand I will let them speak. Very little is known of the children. A daughter Mary married Hannes, or John Swartley, who became the owner of his large plantation about the year 1775 or 1780. His residence and plantation was that now owned and occupied by Michael Swartley, on the Indian Creek. Hannes, or John Swartley, was born in 1754 and died in 1817. His children were Joseph, born March 23, 1781, died April 7, 1834; Samuel; Abraham, born March 3, 1783, died December 11, 1872; Henry; Joseph, born July 31, 1792, died July 27, 1856; Philip, born January 2, 1705, died July 30, 1880.

Mary, wife of Hannes Swartley, died in 1809, and old Hannes obtained a second wife by the name of Hagey.

*Rev. Jacob C. Clemens, Mennonite historian, who lives along Allentown Road, near Lansdale, is a direct descendant of this Jacob Clemens.

Old Hannes Swartley built the messuage where Rev. Henry Nice lived (now the property of Jacob S. Alderfer) for his son, Joseph Swartley. Joseph sold his farm of 80 acres to Rev. Henry Nice and then removed to Skippack, where he purchased a small farm, containing 37 acres and 121 perches, from his brother-in-law, Garret C. Reiff, March 30, 1838.

Philip Swartley, who received the old homestead and 109 acres of land, built the mill to which he cut off some of his land for his son Jacob, who became the owner of the mill and died there, when it was afterward purchased by George S. Reiff, of Lower Salford, a brother-in-law, who then owned the mill and small farm until the time of his death, March 18, 1888. After Reiff's death, Daniel Shueck bought the farm and mill and added a creamery to the mill. The farm is now owned by Tyson Detweiler, Jr., and the mill and creamery by John N. Freed. Several small tracts of land had been added during the time that Rosenberger and Swartley owned it.

In the year 1800 and how long afterward I cannot say, there was a tract of land, probably 50 acres, owned by Christian Rosenberger. This tract apparently is now contained in the farm of James Swartley, and was probably purchased by his grandfather, Abraham Swartley.

The following is what Edward Matthews says of Henry Rosenberger

"The name of Rosenberger is of ancient origin in Germany, signifying Rosemont or Rose Castle. The first settlers of the name of Rosenberger in Montgomery county came to the townships of Franconia and Hatfield. The earliest of these was Henry Rosenberger, who came to the Indian Creek Valley in Franconia, in 1729. He was followed in 1739 by the coming of Benjamin Rosenberger to Hatfield. In that year he bought 125 acres bordering on the County Line, at Line Lexington, which he held for five years. John Rosenberger came also to Hatfield and first bought land around Hatfield station, where is now the village, about 1749-50. Daniel Rosenberger purchased another tract in Hatfield lying along the County Line, near the hamlet called Hockertown, in 1740. The descendants of Benjamin are now largely settled in Bucks County. All the earlier members of these families belonged to religious sect called Mennonites.

"The first of the name who came to Montgomery county is believed to have been Henry Rosenberger, an emigrant from Germany, and a Mennonite. He purchased land in Franconia November 14, 1729, of James Steele, of Philadelphia. For £30 he obtained 159 acres. This was situated about two and one-half miles west of Souderton. It covered an area through which flows the Indian Creek. The greater part was the slope toward the northwest from the present Souderton and Harleysville turnpike to that stream, and including the site of the Mennonite burying ground. Within these boundaries are now the farms of Jacob S. Alderfer, Shuecks' mill and the farm of Michael Swartley. The latter is the fifth in descent from Henry Rosenberger

and owns the homestead. Here down in the valley of the Indian Creek and on the southeast side, is a stone farm house of unusual size. It bears the date of 1809 and the name of John Swartley in German, who was the grandfather of the present owner. To the north is a modern barn, and close to hand an older one. The latter is the oldest building about the premises. On the wooden beam over the door is inscribed the name of Henry Rosenberger and Barbara, his wife, with the date 1755. The first barn of all, in existence between 1730 and 1755, stood more closely adjacent to the banks of the stream, which was thought handy to wash away the manure, at a time this was thought of little value. A stone springhouse stands 70 yards west of the house, near the creek, and bears the date of 1793. For this distance the water for household purposes was carried for three or four generations. In the present garden, just west of the house stood the humble log dwelling which sheltered the old Mennonite preacher and his family. It was only one and one half stories, and existed for 80 years.

"We know nothing of the personality of Henry Rosenberger. He built a house and barn and cleared some land, enduring the hardships of a first settler. By the date of 1745 he had a son old enough to own the plantation, and to whom it was then conveyed. It is not known what became of the father thereafter, but probably he stayed with his son. The boundaries of the deed of 1745 are copied from the first deed, and Henry Funk and Christian Moyer, two Mennonites, were the witnesses. The son Henry paid his father £200.

"Henry Rosenberger had a daughter Mary, and it is said one named Sarah. Mary was wed to John Swartley. This John Swartley, like many other German immigrants of Colonial times, was a Redemptioner. He had not the money to pay his passage to America. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia he was sold for a term of three years by the master of the vessel. Henry Rosenberger paid for the expense of his coming and thus acquired the right to his services for the term of three years, as provided by the law of that period. This was about the year 1772, or three years before the beginning of the Revolutionary War. Swartley was then a youth of about 18. He came to Franconia, worked faithfully upon the Indian Creek farm and found favor in his master's eyes as a worthy young man. What is more, he found favor with his daughter Mary, his future wife, and after obtaining his freedom he married her. It was a good stroke of business, for he obtained a good wife, and inherited a fine farm, which he transmitted to his descendants, who hold a large portion to the present day. Tradition says that Philip, brother of John, married Sarah Rosenberger, and removed to New Britain. He was born in 1764 and died in 1840.

"The plantation had been enlarged in 1763 by the purchase of 20 acres; contained in a long narrow strip on the southwest side. This was bought of Jacob Oberholtzer and was thus bounded: Beginning in a line of Christian Moyer; thence by the same northeast 20 perches; thence by other lands of Henry Rosenberger northwest 160 perches;

thence by other land of Jacob Oberholtzer southwest 20 perches; thence by the same southeast 160 perches to the place of beginning. For this £100 were paid.

"It is not certainly known when Henry Rosenberger died but this is supposed to have been in 1809. If so, he must have reached the age of 85 or 90 years. He was buried in the neighboring graveyard, but has no tombstone.

"Mary, the wife of John Swartley, died in 1809, and her husband obtained a second wife by the name of Hagey. In the graveyard his remains lie between these two wives. His own death occurred in 1817, at the age of 63, he having been born in 1754. His second wife survived him one year. He had brothers, whose descendants now live in New Britain, Bucks county, and elsewhere.

"The children of John Swartley were six sons and two daughters. The sons were John, Samuel, Henry, Abraham, Joseph and Philip. In the will of John Swartley mention is made that Abraham got 18 acres; Joseph 80 acres, adjoining Joseph Freed and Ralph (Rudolph) Moyer (now the Jacob S. Alderfer Farm), whilst the homestead and 109 acres was devised to Philip. The latter was born January 2, 1795, and died July 30, 1880. He built the mill further down the creek, which was owned by his son Samuel. It was now the property of Schuey * * *.

"Helena Rosenberger, widow of Benjamin Rosenberger, Sr., died in Franconia in the summer of 1799. In her will mention is made of her grandchild Helena, wife of Michael Weirman, and great-grandchild, Anna Weirman. From her daughter, Elizabeth, who married John Alderfer, sprung many descendants in Lower Salford.

"About the close of the last century a Christian Rosenberger held a farm in Upper Gwynedd, near the Towamencin line. This he bought in 1795 of the Kinsey estate, but which he sold in 1797. He afterward bought a farm of 129 acres in Lower Providence, and died in that township in 1824. The writer has not ascertained to which family he belonged. He was a wealthy man and an extensive landholder. In his will mention is made of his wife Elizabeth and eight children. The names of those given were David, Jacob and John. These heirs in 1826 sold a farm of 64 acres to John Stinson; also six houses and 300 acres in Worcester and Providence to various parties. The land was near the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike."

The following historical address concerning Henry Rosenberger, the pioneer, was delivered by Rev. A. J. Fretz, of Milton, N. J., at the residence of J. Warren Rosenberger, Yerkes, Pa.

The pioneer Rosenberger, from whom descended the numerous families of the name, whose ancestors were early residents of Hatfield township, Montgomery county, was Henry Rosenberger who emigrated to America prior to 1759 and settled in Franconia township where he purchased his farm of 159 acres from James Steel, of Phila-

delphia on November 14, 1729. The homestead was situated about two and one-half miles west of Telford, and now includes the farm of Michael Swartley. The latter is a great-great-grandson and owns and occupies the homestead proper.

The homestead consists of a stone house of unusual size, and bears the name of John Schwardle in German and the date 1800. To the north is a modern barn and nearby is an older one. On the wooden beam over the door of the building is inscribed the name of Henry Rosenberger and Barbara, his wife, and the date of 1755. In the present garden west of the house, stood the humble log dwelling built by the old pioneer, which sheltered him and his family and also his son Henry, the Mennonite preacher and his family. It was only one and one-half stories and existed for 80 years.

Of the personality of Henry Rosenberger, the pioneer, nothing is known. In common with others on the Mennonite faith, to which he belonged, being persecuted in the land of their religion, and unwilling longer to endure the privations of the peaceful worship of Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience, they left the fatherland of their kindred and friends, the graves of their ancestors and all the hallowed associates of the home and country of their nativity and found for themselves a home in a strange land across the sea, whither they could worship the God of their fathers without fear or molestation. Hither the pioneers came to this then new wilderness land, settled in the forests infested by wild beast and treacherous savages, erected their log cabins and houses of worship, cleaned up the land and endured all the hardships of pioneer settlers.

To the pioneers we owe a debt of gratitude for their courage and bravery in maintaining their Christian welfare, for the sake of which they gave up their homes in the fatherland and braved the perils of sea and land to seek new homes, and thus bequeath to us the noble heritage of Christianity. May the virtues and piety of the ancestors rest upon and abide with us, until the final gathering of the nations.

Tradition says that the Rosenbergers of Montgomery county came from a place in Germany called "Zweibucken" (two bridges) and that they left on account of religious persecution.

It is not known how many children Henry Rosenberger had, or whether he had daughters or not. His family probably consisted of at least four sons, viz: Benjamin, Daniel, John, Henry, all, no doubt, born in Germany.

Benjamin Rosenberger was probably the oldest, and a lad of from 11 to 15 years at the time of the emigration to America. He settled in Hatfield township, where, in 1739, he purchased 135 acres on the County Line, comprising the Oliver G. Morris and Frick farms, at Line Lexington. He sold his farm to his son John in 1744 and bought and sold other properties in Montgomery county. He died about 1777, during the Revolution.

John Rosenberger, born in 1724, died in 1808, aged 84 years. He lived in the northern end of Hatfield township, where he first bought land around where is now the borough of Hatfield about 1749-50.

He, Henry Rosenberger, Jr., the Mennonite preacher, was born December 2, 1725, died about 1897. He married Barbara, daughter of Jacob Oberholtzer, in 1745. She was born in 1726 and died February 3, 1765. He came in possession by deed of his father's plantation in 1745. He also owned property in New Britain township, where he also lived for a time. He served as one of the ministers of the Franconia Mennonite church during the Revolution.

Daniel Rosenberger, probably the second son of pioneer Henry Rosenberger, born about 1715, was the grandfather of Abram Rosenberger, the ancestor of descendants gathered here today. He purchased his land in Hatfield township, near Hockertown, in 1740. He bought two tracts adjoining at different times, comprising in all 359 acres. This large tract, lying along the County line for a mile, extended over a mile southward and included the properties of Samuel and Henry Rosenberger, Milton Jenkins, John Landes and Kile's tavern property. Extensive and beautiful meadows border the banks of the two branches of the Neshaminy, which flows across this nearly level area. At this place Daniel Rosenberger built a stone house in which he died. He made his will August 15, 1771, and died soon afterward. He was a wealthy man for the times. He was a Mennonite and worshipped at the Line Lexington church, where his remains were buried. His wife's name was Fronica, and their children were David, Isaac, Ann and Mary.

Isaac Rosenberger, born November 30, 1751; died July 30, 1830; married Christiana ———, foster daughter of Martin Funk. He received the lower part of his father's estate, containing 159 acres, now mostly included in the farm of Milton Jenkins. Near the present dwelling are two old houses, one of stone and the other of logs. The latter, built before the Revolution, was the residence of Isaac Rosenberger. He afterward erected the stone house and barn. His children were Henry, Jacob, Isaac, Anna and Elizabeth.

Anna Rosenberger, daughter of Daniel, married Michael Kolb and had three children — Helena, Isaac, and Barbara.

Mary Rosenberger, daughter of Daniel, was born about 1758, died January 23, 1895; married Valentine Kratz, son of the pioneer John Valentine Kratz. They lived and died in Upper Salford. Children — Ann, Daniel, Valentine, Abraham, John, Isaac. David, William, and Jacob.

David Rosenberger, eldest son of Daniel, was born about 1749, died in 1829; aged about 80 years. To him was devised the upper portion of his father's estate of 200 acres, and where he built a new house in 1780. He was married twice, his first wife being Anna Funk, daughter of Rev. Christian Funk, and granddaughter of pioneer Bishop Henry Funk, by whom he had the following children: Christian,

Elizabeth, Mary, Anna, Philip, David, Abraham, and Daniel. His second wife was Barbara Detweiler, daughter of John Detweiler. The issue by this marriage was Susanna, John, Henry, Fronica, and Valentine.

The eldest son, Christian Rosenberger, born about 1773 or earlier, died in 1821; married Elizabeth Kraut. They lived and died in Lower Providence township. He was a wealthy man and a large land-holder. He has numerous descendants, but widely scattered.

Elizabeth Rosenberger, born August 17, 1775; died in 1821; married first husband David Shutt and second husband, Frederick Alderfer.

Mary Rosenberger born about 1777, married Christian Wismer and had a large family.

Ann Rosenberger married Joseph Kulp. Had no issue.

Philip Rosenberger, born November 20, 1781; died January 1835; married Mary Landes March 20, 1808. She was born March 15, 1783, died in 1840. Lived in Lower Providence.

David Rosenberger, born in 1784, married Catharine Delp, daughter of Abraham Delp, of Franconia. They lived in Lower Providence township, adjoining his brother Philip.

Daniel Rosenberger died young.

Susanna Rosenberger (by second wife), born January 17, 1793, died August 22, 1872; married Joohn Rickert April 6, 1813. He was born May 28, 1783, died January 7, 1867. Lived in Bucks county.

John Rosenberger, born about 1798, married Sarah Detweiler. They lived on a part of the old homestead of his father, David, Sr.

Henry Rosenberger, born 1800, died in 1865; married Sarah Landes. She was born in 1804; died in 1860. Lived on the old homestead proper till near the close of his life, when he moved to Bucks county and died there.

Fronica Rosenberger, born August 15, 1801, died September 20, 1832; married Abraham Rosenberger. He was born July 1, 1792, died August 30, 1832 (son of Benjamin III, son of John II).

Valentine Rosenberger died aged 15 years.

We now take up the genealogy of Abraham Rosenberger, son of David, by his first wife, Anna Funk.

Abraham Rosenberger, born about 1788, married Margaret Detweiler (sister to his father's second wife). Lived in Upper Providence township. Following is an account of Abraham Rosenberger's descendants. Children: David, Jessie, Hannah, Fannie, Margaret, Abraham, Joseph, Samuel, Mary, Henry, Barbara, Betsey.

David Rosenberger married Catharine Longacre, December 31, 1887. Children: Mary, Margaret, Ann, Hannah, Abraham, Davis, Joseph, Warren, Henry.

Hannah Rosenberger married Jacob Kulp March 9, 1831. Children: Abraham, Margaret.

Fannie Rosenberger married Christian Moyer in 1836. Children: David, Abraham.

Margaret Rosenberger married Abraham Hunsicker. No children.

Abraham Rosenberger married Mary Yerkes, deceased. He married second wife, Susan Peters. No children.

Joseph Rosenberger Sarah Adams. Children: Sarah, Josephine, Benjamin, Joanna, Amanda, Albert, Lizzie.

Samuel Rosenberger married Lydia Bickhart. Children: Mary, Henry, Abraham, Hannah, Howard, Annie, Samuel.

Mary Ann Rosenberger married John Kepler. Children: Hannah, Abraham.

Henry, Barbara, and Beisey Rosenberger all died young.

CONRAD DETTERER

The conveyances for the land whereon Telford is built show that in the first place there was granted to William Hauk, by John Budd and Humphrey Murrey, a tract of land containing 132 acres in Franconia by lease and release, bearing date March 26 and 27, 1728, which was part of a tract of 347 acres, with allowance of 6 per cent, for roads and highways, which Budd and Murrey had purchased from William Bacon, of Middle Temple, of the city of London, England, by lease and release, bearing date February 19 and 20, 1718. Mr. Bacon's title covered 5000 acres, all of which was purchased by Budd and Murrey on the above date. On August 28, 1719, a warrant was granted for the survey of those 5000 acres, and there was surveyed a tract of 347 acres with allowance of 6 per cent. near Perkiomany creek, the aforesaid 132 acres being part of this tract. On the other hand there was granted to William Hauk 50 acres at a place called Freetown, but now called Rockhill, in Bucks County, by Andrew Hamilton and wife Ann, January 11, 1731. One of the witnesses to this transaction was Jacob Kolb.

These 50 acres lay adjacent on the Bucks county side to his other tract in Franconia, and are partly covered by the borough of East Telford. The recitals show that William Penn by his Commissioners of Property granted to John Furness, of the city of Philadelphia, a patent dated the 26th of the 11th month, 1702, for 350 acres of land at a place called Freetown, but now called Rockhill, in Bucks county, and the said John Furness and wife Penelope, by their deed of lease and release dated September 4 and 5, 1723, granted those 350 acres of land, with the appurtenances thereunto, belonging to James Steel, of the city of Philadelphia, and he and his wife by their indenture dated October 9 and 10, 1724, granted the same to Andrew Hamilton, of the city of Philadelphia, who with his wife granted 50 acres to William Hauk, as already stated.

There must have been an epidemic of some kind in the land in 1741, 1742, 1745, 1746, for we find that many men who were not old yet had to succumb to some disease during these years. This was the case with William Hauk, who made his last will and testament bearing date October 29, 1741, and therein devised unto his wife Sophia one-third part of all his estate, but he named no executors in his will; he only ordered that his wife and oldest son Jacob should order and manage his whole estate until the youngest son was 21 years of age. Then all his property was to be appraised by impartial men, for he also had other lands and tenements besides these two adjacent tracts and tenements. Then his wife was to have her share and the four children were to have "share and share alike." It followed then that the widow Sophia, by a certain indenture dated February 13, 1746, granted her third part and all her right and title for a certain consideration to her oldest son Jacob. Six years later they made a sale for the plantation. Jacob Hauk, of Rockhill, and wife Mary, Andrew Hauk and wife Mary, William Hauk and wife Margaret, both of the Northern Liberties of Philadelphia, conveyed the plantation to Nathan Dederar August 10. 1752. There was another son, John, when the will was made, but he is not in this conveyance and may have died in the meantime.

William Hauk lived at this place in 1734 and was rated on 100 acres, as his name appears in the list.

We have a copy of two receipts for quitrent for William Hauk, which Conrad Deterer probably paid for him after his death:

Philadelphia 5 of April 1758.

Rec'd of William Houk one pound one shilling and one penny Sterling in money of Pennsylvania in full for 16 yrs. quit rent due on 132 acres in Franconia Township to the 1st day of last month.

£1-8-6 Cur'cy.

E. C. Physick.

Philadelphia 5th of April 1758.

Rec'd of William Houk nine shillings sterling in money of Pennsylvania in Full for 18 yrs. quitrent due on 50 acres in Freetown, Bucks county, to the 1st day of last month.

12-12 Cur'cy.

E. C. Physick.

Conrad Deterer came here to stay and lived here about thirty years. His residence was where Jacob Leidy now lives, on the north-west side of the borough of West Telford. It is a nice place to live and is nicely located outside of the borough. During the time that the Hauks owned the place they cut off some of the land, so that this place contained only 150 acres. The boundaries are thus given: Beginning at a corner of Henry Hertzell's land and then extending by the same and land belonging to the heirs of John Benner, deceased, southwest 132 perches; then by land belonging to the heirs of Abra-

liam Hunsberger, deceased, northwest 160 perches to a stone; then by land of Andrew Trumbore northeast 42 perches; then southeast 54 perches to a stone, and northeast 45 perches to a stone; then by land of Samuel Bechtel and Henry Hartzell southeast 175 perches to the place of beginning, containing 150 acres.

Conrad Detterer died, but left his will, and his executors, Christian Detterer and Abraham Gerhart, both of Rockhill, sold the plantation to Jacob Herr, of Rockhill, and gave a conveyance dated June 14, 1783. Four days later, June 18, Mr. Herr transferred the same property to Abraham Gerhart, of Rockhill, son-in-law of Conrad Detterer.

Abraham Detterer owned this plantation thirty years and on March 29, 1813, he was appointed Justice of the Peace for the district comprising the townships of Towamencin, Lower Salford and Franconia, by Governor Snyder. Then Squire Gerhart and wife Barbara sold their plantation still containing 150 acres to their son, Jacob Gerhart, of Franconia, for £1800. April 17, 1813. In his time the latter cut up his farm, so that by the time the railroad was built he had yet two tenements and two tracts of land, comprising about 49 acres. John Gerhart and wife Magdalena sold the remainder of this farm in two tracts of 37 acres and 89 perches and a second tract of 12 acres, with the appurtenances, to his son, Abraham S. Gerhart, December 26, 1856. After the death of Abraham S. Gerhart, in 1871, the farm was purchased by his son Jacob. After several years his wife died and in a few years more he died also, shortly after which the property was purchased by Jacob S. Leidy, the present owner.

CONRAD ALTHOUSE

Conrad Althouse was undoubtedly the head of a large posterity of the same names. He appears to have died intestate, as we have not been able to find his will, and hence conclude that he made none. We have thus far found but three of his children — William, Joseph, and Susanna. He probably purchased from the Pastorius estate 140 acres about the year 1726. His residence apparently must have been on the farm of John S. Alderfer, near Franconia Square. The land belonging to his plantation was located on both sides of the Allentown Road and up along the Harleysville and Souderton turnpike; also along the line of Uli Hunsberger's land, but this appears to have been a separate tract. He apparently died some time after the year 1730. In the boundaries given in the title to Ulrich Hunsberger May 30, 1726, Conrad Althouse was a landholder of that place, and the line between George W. Delp and John S. Alderfer is still the same as it was then.

On December 28 and 29, 1733, two of his children, Susanna Althouse and Joseph Althouse and wife Mary, conveyed the messuage and plantation of 140 acres to John Julian Stump, of the same township. Stump purchased from James Steel and wife 159 acres where David Moyer now lives, in 1729, but there was still another tract of 59

acres lying between his two tracts, which he also purchased from Steel and wife. The names of Joseph Althouse appears in the tax list of 1734, rated for 141 acres.

William Althouse some time after this date owned the Yetter farm, which, according to the metes of a draft, contained about 93 acres at that time, and was cut out of the Ashton estate before it was purchased by Jacob Leidy.

The first residence might have been where Daniel Landes lives, but it is not certain whether it was there or at John S. Alderfer's. John Julian Stump owned this plantation only about seven years until he made his last will and testament, dated March 25, 1741, and therein devised his tract of 140 acres to his son, George Stump. He was a life-long resident, and 31 years later made his will, bearing date October 17, 1772, and therein devised all his lands in Franconia township to his daughter Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Hagey.

Time passed on and Elizabeth Hagey died intestate, seized of her 140-acre plantation, leaving five children, who tried to make the most out of their land and divided the tract. The five children were: George Hagey, and Jacob Hagey, clockmaker, of Lower Salford; Ann Swartley, widow of Franconia; Abraham Moyer, of Towamencin, and wife, Catharine; John Henge, of Upper Salford, and wife Elizabeth. These heirs sold a tract of 79 acres and 98 perches to Daniel Landes May 12, 1824, for \$2123. The balance of the tract was 72 acres and 79 perches, which they sold to Abraham Moyer March 18, 1826. It was not long until this tract, now the Alderfer farm, came into the hands of Jacob Swartley, who died here intestate April 7, 1834, and the farm was again sold and conveyed by the administrators to George Menche on November 17, 1834. The Derstein farm at the Allentown Road was probably cut out about the year 1824.

On March 30, 1842, George Menche conveyed his 72-acre farm to John Swartley. Twelve years later the latter and his wife conveyed 70 acres and 116 perches to John K. Alderfer on January 21, 1854. The latter and his wife sold to their son, John S. Alderfer, the present owner, October 8, 1885.

Daniel A. Landes, the present owner of the Landes farm, purchased his father's farm, containing 60 acres and 48 perches, April 1, 1871.

THE WAMBOLD FARM

The farm of Frank Freed, situated back at the Branch Creek, for a long time belonged to the Pastorius family of Germantown. Although there was a log house on it, and the land they had cleared was rented out, it apparently was not in a very inviting condition. It appears by the conveyances that William Penn by the hands of his Commissioners of Property granted to Francis Daniel Pastorius, of Germantown, 893 acres of land in Pennsylvania, September 3, 1717,

under the yearly quit rent of 11 pence sterling, and in his will dated December 6, 1719, Francis Daniel Pastorius devised to his eldest son, John Samuel Pastorius, 200 acres of land in the county of Philadelphia "lying at the northeast branch of the Perqueoming Creek and at the northwest end of my tract granted to me," and 300 acres to his son Henry Pastorius, and the said John Samuel Pastorius by a noncupative will devised the said 200 acres and 390 acres to his two sons, Daniel Pastorius and John Pastorius, co-heirs. The said John Pastorius being seized of and in the moiety or half of said land, made his will the second day of the eleventh month, 1749. The said Daniel Pastorius, his brother, also died, and the two executors appointed in Daniel's will, Daniel Macknet and George Shoemaker, the former of Germantown, the latter of Bristol township, Philadelphia county, sold 147 acres of the land, with a messuage, to George Wambold, carpenter, of Rockhill township, for £487 and 15 shillings, January 27, 1757. The tract is thus described: Beginning at a sapling by the branch of the Perkiomen Creek, thence by land of Dr. Kunderwitts southwest 120½ perches to a stone, a corner; then southeast by J. Funk's land 152 perches to a heap of stones, a corner; then by Fry's land northeast 155½ perches to a stone, a corner of Abraham Swartz's land; then by the same northwest 158 perches to a post, a corner by the creek, and down the east side of the stream by several courses to the place of beginning, containing 147 acres. There was also another tract containing 41¾ acres, apparently adjacent on the northeast side, purchased by said George Wambold, from the same Pastorius estate and included in the same conveyance of 1757. But on May 26, 1783, after owning the said plantation twenty-six years, his wife being dead, George Wambold conveyed his plantation, still containing 147 acres, to his son Jacob Wampole. Twenty-eight years later, September 24, 1811, Jacob Wampole, Sr., divided his farm as shown by a draft and surveys, and conveyed to his son, George Wampole, 86 acres and 80 perches of the southeastern part of his land, which now belongs to Levi Rosenberger, leaving 65 acres and 20 perches in the old place.

The old homestead belonged to the Wambold family 126 years, when Henry Wambold, having surveyed the land by Andrew S. Hartzell, surveyor, April 13, 1883, sold the same containing 76 acres and 57 perches, to Daniel Shueck, of Franconia, for \$8349.34.

Articles of agreement made May 4, 1839, show that at that time Jacob Wambold owned the farm and that Jacob Sholl lived on the opposite side of the Branch Creek. The latter proposed to build a grist mill and the two neighbors had an agreement made on conditions that if the mill was built Sholl was to pay Wambold \$50 for the water right, but the mill was not built. The present residence is very nicely located on the hill, conveniently arranged with durable buildings, well kept, showing thrift and industry. There is still an old building at the road, in which, or at which, there was at one time a water wheel by which much of their work was done by water-power, for I am informed that there the chopping of grain, the sawing of wood

and the cider making were done. This farm is located only about a half mile west of Earlington.

The creamery at this place was built by a joint stock company of farmers in the fall of 1879. They ran it two years and nearly ran it into the ground. It was known as Wambold's creamery, but then they sold it to John G. Hunsicker, of Skippack, now a merchant at Souderton. He owned it and ran it eleven years and then sold it to Josiah Gerhart in 1893. The latter sold it to John K. Landes, who, at this writing (1900) has been there seven years.

Mention was made of a tract of $41\frac{3}{4}$ acres of land purchased from the Pastorius estate in 1757, lying adjacent to the Wambold farm on the northeast side. This tract was undoubtedly purchased by Peter Gerhart, who lived at the next place farther up the stream, and who bought all the land he could. By the recitals of an old deed we see that his widow, Elizabeth Gerhart, granted a conveyance to her son, John Gerhart, for 102 pears with the appurtenances belonging thereto, July 3, 1784, which is described as follows: Beginning at a post, a corner on the southeast side of the north branch of the Perkiomen Creek, being also a corner of Jacob Wambold's land; then by the same southeast 158 perches; then northeast 14.1 perches to a stone; then by the same southeast 34.3 perches to a stone; then still northeast by



Leidy's Reformed Church

said Wambold's land 67.5 perches to a stone; then by land of Samuel Bergey and Tobias Gerhart northwest 204.25 perches to a hickory sapling standing on the bank of the branch of the Perkiomen; then down the said creek on the southeast side 86 perches to the place of beginning, containing 102 acres and 159 perches. This survey was made after the death of John Gerhart in 1829. It is the same as it was when conveyed to him save that they brought out nearly three acres of land more than he was charged with, and at this date (1829) the bordering landholders were changed as noted.

On January 23, 1830, Magdalene, widow of John Gerhart, and all the heirs, who were John Gerhart, of Rockhill township, and wife Margaret; Abraham Gerhart, of Rockhill, and wife, Hanna; George Gerhart, of Upper Milford, in the county of Lehigh, and wife Susanna; Phillip Gerhart, of Franconia, and wife Sara; Jacob Gerhart, clock-maker, of Hilltown, and wife, Elizabeth, late Elizabeth Gerhart; Barbara Shive, widow of George Shive, late of New Britain township, late Barbara Gerhart; Jacob Barndt, of Upper Salford township, and wife Mary, late Mary Gerhart. These all were heirs of John Gerhart, and on the above date they conveyed their plantation to John Stouffer, of Upper Salford, for his son-in-law, John Freed. All the above heirs signed the conveyance before Abraham Heany, Esq. The witnesses were John Shey and Heinrich Wambold. On April 1, 1841, John Stouffer transferred the farm, still containing 102 acres and 159 perches to John Freed and wife Rachel with release of dower.

MARTIN DETWEILER

The farm of David D. Moyer, though now much reduced in size, was purchased by John Julian Stump of James Steel and wife Martha, of Philadelphia, November 14, 1729. It contained 159 acres, and after some years it became the property of his son, Jacob Stump, who owned the same until 1774.

John Julian Stump was taxable in 1734, though I have not seen a complete tax list. Jacob Stump was married to Elizabeth, daughter the Elder Peter Becker, the **first Dunkard preacher in America**. A more complete account of the Stumps is given later. In 1774 Jacob Stump sold his farm to his neighbor, Martin Detweiler, who was married to Mary Moyer. This farm lay adjacent to the farm of his father-in-law, and at the time of this purchase Martin had been married but a few years. Their eldest son Christian was born August 3, 1772.

They had twelve children, whose names were Isaac, Samuel, Hannah, Susanna, Maria, Abraham, Sarah, Jacob, Barbara, Joseph, Benjamin.

Christian Detweiler, married Elizabeth Reiff; Isaac, no account of him; Samuel, married Anna Atherholt; Hannah, married Isaac Rosenberger; Maria, married Joohn Price; Abraham, married Elizabeth Clemmer; Sarah married John Rosenberger; Barbara, married George

Cassel; Joseph, married Mary Moyer; Benjamin, married Magdalene Moyer; Jacob, married Mary Kulp.

So far as known, Christian Detweiler was the oldest of the children, and he purchased his father's plantation, still containing 159 acres, with all the improvements, May 28, 1798. In later years he built a house and improvements over the road where Jonas Derstein now lives for his son-in-law Benjamin Landes, and cut off from his farm 43 acres for him; the remainder of the farm was then yet 116 acres, the same as when he sold to Mr. Moyer.

Christian was born August 3, 1772; died August 20, 1843. His children were Joseph, Elizabeth, Mary, George, Sarah, Ann and Hannah.

Joseph, born October 26, 1797; died July 1, 1864. He married Elizabeth Alderfer.

Elizabeth, born March 14, 1800; died January 1, 1885. She married Michael Young.

Mary, born January 6, 1803; died May 21, 1886. She married Benjamin Landes.

George, born January 1, 1806; died November 26, 1833; married Mary Wisler.

Sarah, born April 8, 1809; died August 21, 1884. Single.

Ann, born February 13, 1812; died October 9, 1857; married John M. Hagey.

Hannah, born April 9, 1815; died March 18, 1893; married Abraham L. Moyer.

After the death of Christian Detweiler the administrators of his estate sold the farm to Gabriel Kline and George R. Detwiler, who was one of the administrators, January 27, 1844, and they afterward sold the same to the late Jacob L. Moyer, father of David D. Moyer, the present owner.

THE STUMPS

John Julian Stump came to Franconia at an early day and purchased large tracts of land, which he left to his two sons, Jacob and George. He made his will dated March 25, 1741. He purchased of James Steel and wife Martha, of Philadelphia, 159 acres November 14, 1729, and lived where David Moyer now lives. This farm afterward became the property of his son Jacob, who was a brother-in-law to Rudolph Harley.

The Stumps were Dunkers. Jacob Stump was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Elder Peter Becker, the first Dunkard preacher in America. They also had a son, Peter who was named after his grandfather. George Stump purchased the farm of 176 acres and the lot of six acres mostly in Franconia, located on the southwest side of

the road leading up from Detweiler's schoolhouse, on December 6, 1739, which he afterward sold to Rudolph Harley June 5, 1744. John Julian Stump purchased from the heirs of Conrad Althouse the 140-acre plantation lying on both sides of the Allentown Road, below Franconia Square, comprising the farms of Daniel Landes, John S. Alderfer and others. Then there was yet a tract of 59 acres lying between the last mentioned tract, a long narrow strip extending up and down between his two other tracts, which he also purchased. He devised the Althouse farm to his son George, who lived there until 1772, when he died, leaving all his estate to an only daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Hagey.

Jacob Stump lived on his 159-acre tract until 1774, when he sold it to his neighbor, Martin Detweiler. In his will John Julian Stump ordered that five acres should be cut out of the 59-acre tract and added to George Stump's other land. And then also there was some trouble about one acre of land which George Stump had bought from his brother Jacob, but had no title for it after the death of his brother, and in the year 1789 Martin Detweiler gave a clear title for it.

It is said there was a small burial place on the farm of Jacob Stump, but Martin Detweiler took it under cultivation. There is a tradition still lingering in the neighborhood that George and Jacob Stump had hewn a path in the forest between the two places in order that they could go to see each other at any time. This indeed was commendable. It is also said that Jacob Stump had thirteen children.

THE LOUX FARM

The deed sets forth that John Rosenberger and wife Christiana, by virtue of their indenture dated August 19, 1794, granted a mesuage and plantation, containing 144 acres and 134 perches, to the above named Abraham Rosenberger. The latter died intestate and Christian Swartz and Margaret Rosenberger, administrators, sold to Valentine Clymer and Andrew Swartz, both of New Britain township, who were granted a deed April 3, 1824.

The same tract was sold by the above party to John Delp, of Franconia, April 1, 1826. He lived here until 1850, or longer, until he died. George Delp and Samuel Delp, administrators of the estate of John Delp, sold to Isaac Benner 102 acres and 85 perches, April 5, 1852; Isaac Benner and wife to George Delp, April 5, 1852, the same 102 acres. Loux now has 88 acres of the tract and Philip Alderfer 48. Several small tracts were sold off. Jacob Leidy owned the place and sold it to Loux.

THE LEIDY FARM

A deed made May 21, 1783, shows that Jacob Leidy, Sr., and wife Barbara, of Franconia, sold to their son, Joohn Leidy, 121 acres, being part of 246 acres and 52 perches. The same was surveyed by John Lukens, November 10, 1769, in the right of the heirs of Robert Ashton, and returned into the office December 6, 1769.

A patent was granted to Jacob Leidy by the proprietary government, dated December 7, 1769. It was bounded on the northwest by Christian Benner and Christian Hunsberger's lands; on the southwest by Thomas Wilson's land; on the northeast was John Cope. The line along the church road was 132 by 240, or 372 perches long.

William Althouse owned the Yetter and Sell farms, which included about 93 acres, as shown by a draft.

The deed made for the graveyard is dated June 1, 1795, for 98 perches of land for a graveyard, bought by Jacob Leidy by an association of Christians. It was sold by Jacob Leidy, Jr., to John Althouse, Jacob and John Leidy, Jr., and others.

THE HANGEY FAMILY

Ludwig Hangey, born October 26, 1696; died 1769, aged 73 years. His children were Anna Catharine, Jacob, Gabriel, John and Sophia.

John Hangey born March 23, 1737.

Jacob Hangey, born December 1738; married Barbara, daughter of Jacob Leidy.

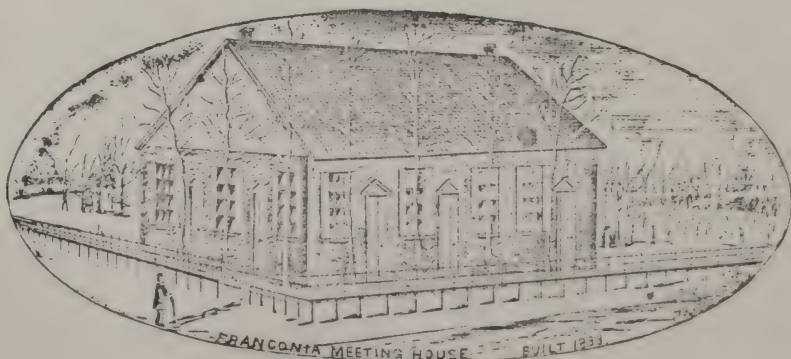
Sophia Hangey, was born in 1740; married John Cope. He was captain in the war and received his commission dated May 12, 1777.

Anna Catherine Hangey, born 1733; died in 1739.

Gabriel Hangey.

* * * *

The tax list of Franconia in 1734 shows that John Fry owned 150 acres; Henry Rosenberger, 125; Jacob Oberholtzer, 150; Christian Meyer, 150; Ulrich Hunsberger, 150; Jacob Hunsberger, 50; Frederick Gottschalk, 100; Michael Bing, 75; Michael Wentz, 100; George Hartzell, 50; Andrew Barndt, 75; Henry Barndt, 100; Frederick Sholl, 100; Jacob Payard, 100; John Wilhelm, 50 acres.



A
 ment
 Christ
 west
 line
 the ranch road was 1/2 by 2 1/2, or 3 1/2 parcels long.

With
 divided up at 33
 as shown by a ditch.
 The deed made for the graveyard is dated June 1, 1785, for 33
 parcels of land for a graveyard, bought by Jacob Leidy by an ass-
 it was sold by Jacob Leidy, Jr. to John Atkinson.
 Jacob and Leidy, Jr., and others.

THE HANGLEY FAMILY

Ludwig Hangley, born October 28, 1888; died 1889, aged 73 years.
 His children were Anna Catherine, Jacob, Gabriel, John and Sophia.
 John Hangley born March 23, 1787.
 Jacob Hangley, born December 1788; married Barbara, daughter
 of Jacob
 Sophia Hangley, was born in 1780; married John Gope. He was
 captain in the war and received his commission dated May 12, 1777.
 Anna Catherine Hangley, born 1788; died in 1788.

The tax list of Lincoln County in 1784 shows that John Fry owned 180
 Acres, Rosenberger 125, Jacob Oberholzer 150; Christian May-
 the Hangley 150, Jacob Rosenberger 50, Friedrich Gott-
 5; Michael Meyer 100; George Hartsell 30;
 Bantel 100; Friedrich Stahl 100; Jacob
 30 acres.

